

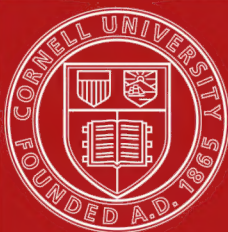
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FROM

G.V.Fowler

THE  
ANTIGONE  
OF  
SOPHOCLES.

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*VASSAR COLLEGE, 1893.*

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THE GREEK DEPARTMENT.

NOTE.

The translation is that of Professor R. C. JEBB, published by the Cambridge University Press, and is printed here by his kind permission. It will be found to differ slightly from the text in verses 110, 130, 351, 614, 836, 837, 969, 1281, and 1344.

We are indebted for the use of the plates of the Greek Text to the courtesy of Messrs. GINN & COMPANY, Boston.

## THE ARGUMENT.



When Polyneices had died in single combat with his brother, Creon the king issued a stern decree that no one should bury the body on penalty of death. His sister Antigone evades the guards and performs funeral rites for her brother. Creon threatens the guards with death, if they do not discover the culprit. They scrape off the dust from the body and keep a careful watch. Antigone comes and when she sees the body laid bare, utters a cry of grief that convicts her.

The guards lead her to Creon, and he orders her to be immured alive in a rocky tomb. Antigone hangs herself in the tomb and Hæmon, Creon's son and her betrothed, in indignant grief, slays himself by her side, as the seer Teiresias had predicted. Whereupon Eurydice, Creon's wife, slays herself, and so at the end Creon is left mourning the death of son and wife.



THE  
ANTIGONE OF SOPHOCLES.



TEXT AND TRANSLATION.

# ANTIGONH.

Τὰ τοῦ δράματος πρόσωπα.

Ἀντιγόνη.

Φύλαξ ἄγγελος.

Ἴσμήνη.

Ἄγγελος.

Χορὸς Θηβαίων γερόντων.

Εὐρυδίκη.

Κρέων.

MUTES :

Αἴμων.

Two Servants of Creon.

Τειρεσίας.

An Attendant of Tiresias.

Two Maids of Eurydice.

FIRST SCENE. ANTIGONE AND ISMENE.

Πρόλογος.

ANTIGONH.

ὦ κοινὸν ἀντάδελφον Ἰσμήνης κάρα,  
ἄρ' οἶσθ' ὅτι Ζεὺς τῶν ἀπ' Οἰδίπου κακῶν  
ὅποιον οὐχὶ νῦν ἔτι ζώσαιν τελεῖ;  
οὐδέν γὰρ οὐτ' ἀλγεινὸν οὐτ' ἀτήσιμον  
5 οὐτ' αἰσχροὺς οὐτ' ἄτιμον ἔσθ', ὅποιον οὐ  
τῶν σῶν τε καμῶν οὐκ ὅπως ἐγὼ κακῶν.  
καὶ νῦν τί τοῦτ' αἶ φασι πανδήμῳ πόλει  
κήρυγμα θεῖναι τὸν στρατηγὸν ἀρτίως;  
ἔχεις τι κείσῃκουσας; ἢ σε λανθάνει  
10 πρὸς τοὺς φίλους στείχοντα τῶν ἐχθρῶν κακά;

ISMENH.

ἐμοὶ μὲν οὐδεὶς μῦθος, Ἀντιγόνη, φίλων  
οὐθ' ἡδὺς οὐτ' ἀλγεινὸς ἵκετ', ἐξ ὅτου

# ANTIGONE.

## PERSONS REPRESENTED.

ANTIGONE, }	Sisters of	HAEMON, son of Creon.
ISMENE, }	Polyneices.	TEIRESIAS, a blind seer.
CHORUS of Theban old men.		MESSENGER.
CREON, King of Thebes.		EURYDICE, wife of Creon.
GUARD of body of Polyneices.		MESSENGER from within Palace.
MUTES ; BOY, attendant on TEIRESIAS ; two attendants on Creon and EURYDICE each.		

SCENE. — Before the Royal Palace in Boeotian Thebes.

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FIRST SCENE. ANTIGONE AND ISMENE.

## ANTIGONE.

Ismene, my sister, mine own dear sister, knowest thou what ill there is, of all bequeathed by Oedipus, that Zeus fulfils not for us twain while we live? Nothing painful is there, nothing fraught with ruin, no shame, no dishonor, that I have not seen in thy woes and mine.

And now what new edict is this of which they tell, that our Captain hath just published to all Thebes? Knowest thou aught? Hast thou heard? Or is it hidden from thee that our friends are threatened with the doom of our foes?

- δυοῖν ἀδελφοῖν ἐστερήθημεν δύο,  
 μιᾷ θανόντων ἡμέρα διπλῇ χερί·  
 15 ἐπεὶ δὲ φρουδός ἐστιν Ἀργείων· στρατὸς  
 ἐν νυκτὶ τῇ νῦν, οὐδὲν οἶδ' ὑπέρτερον,  
 οὔτ' εὐτυχούσα μᾶλλον οὔτ' ἀτωμένη.

ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΗ.

ἤδη καλῶς, καὶ σ' ἐκτὸς αὐλείων πυλῶν  
 τοῦδ' οὐνεκ' ἐξέπεμπον, ὥς μόνη κλύοις.

ΙΣΜΗΝΗ.

- 20 τί δ' ἔστι; δηλοῖς γάρ τι καλχαίνουσ' ἔπος.

ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΗ.

- οὐ γὰρ τάφου νῶν τῷ κασιγνήτῳ Κρέων  
 τὸν μὲν προτίσας, τὸν δ' ἀτιμάσας ἔχει;  
 Ἐπεοκλέα μὲν, ὥς λέγουσι, σὺν δίκη  
 χρησθεῖς δικαίᾳ καὶ νόμῳ, κατὰ χθονὸς  
 25 ἔκρυψε τοῖς ἔνερθεν ἔντιμον νεκροῖς·  
 τὸν δ' ἀθλίως θανόντα Πολυνείκους νέκυν  
 ἀστοῖσιν φασιν ἐκκεκηρῦχθαι τὸ μὴ  
 τάφῳ καλύψαι μηδὲ κωκῦσαί τινα,  
 ἔαν δ' ἄταφον, ἄκλαντον, οἰωνοῖς γλυκὺν  
 30 θησαυρὸν εἰσορῶσι πρὸς χάριν βορᾶς.  
 τοιαῦτά φασι τὸν ἀγαθὸν Κρέοντα σοὶ  
 κάμοι — λέγω γὰρ καμέ — κηρύξαντ' ἔχειν,  
 καὶ δεῦρο νεῖσθαι ταῦτα τοῖσι μὴ εἰδόσιν  
 σαφῇ προκηρύξοντα, καὶ τὸ πρᾶγμ' ἄγειν  
 35 οὐχ ὥς παρ' οὐδέν, ἀλλ' ὅς ἂν τούτων τι δρᾷ  
 φόνον προκείσθαι δημόλευστον ἐν πόλει.  
 οὕτως ἔχει σοι ταῦτα, καὶ δείξεις τάχα  
 εἴτ' εὐγενὴς πέφυκας εἴτ' ἐσθλῶν κακῇ.

ANTIGONE.

ISMENE.

No word of friends, Antigone, gladsome or painful, hath come to me, since we two sisters were bereft of brothers twain, killed in one day by a twofold blow; and since in this last night the Argive host hath fled, I know no more, whether my fortune be brighter, or more grievous.

AN. I knew it well, and therefore sought to bring thee beyond the gates of the court, that thou mightest hear alone.

IS. What is it? 'Tis plain that thou art brooding on some dark tidings.

AN. What, hath not Creon destined our brothers, the one to honoured burial, the other to unburied shame? Eteocles, they say, with due observance of right and custom, he hath laid in the earth, for his honour among the dead below. But the hapless corpse of Polyneices — as rumour saith, it hath been published to the town that none shall entomb him or mourn, but leave unwept, unsepulchred, a welcome store for the birds, as they espy him, to feast on at will.

Such, 'tis said, is the edict that the good Creon hath set forth for thee and for me, — yes, for *me*, —

ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΗ.

ΙΣΜΗΝΗ.

τί δ', ὦ ταλαῖφρον, εἰ τάδ' ἐν τούτοις, ἐγὼ  
40 λύουσ' ἂν ἢ 'φάπτουσα προσθείμην πλέον;

ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΗ.

εἰ ξυμπονήσεις καὶ ξυνεργάσει σκόπει.

ΙΣΜΗΝΗ.

ποῖόν τι κινδύνευμα; ποῖ γνώμης ποτ' εἶ;

ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΗ.

εἰ τὸν νεκρὸν ξὺν τῇδε κουφικεῖς χερί.

ΙΣΜΗΝΗ.

ἦ γὰρ νοεῖς θάπτειν σφ', ἀπόρρητον πόλει;

ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΗ.

45 τὸν γοῦν ἐμὸν καὶ τὸν σόν, ἦν σὺ μὴ θέλῃς,  
ἀδελφόν· οὐ γὰρ δὴ προδοῦς' ἀλώσομαι.

ΙΣΜΗΝΗ.

ὦ σχετλία, Κρέοντος ἀντειρηκότος;

ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΗ.

ἀλλ' οὐδὲν αὐτῷ τῷ· ἐμῶν μ' εἵργειν μέτα.

ΙΣΜΗΝΗ.

οἴμοι· φρόνησον, ὦ κασιγνήτη, πατὴρ  
50 ὥς νῶν ἀπεχθὴς δυσκλεῆς τ' ἀπώλετο,  
πρὸς αὐτοφώρων ἀμπλακημάτων διπλᾶς  
ὄψεις ἀράξας αὐτὸς αὐτουργῷ χερί·  
ἔπειτα μήτηρ καὶ γυνή, διπλοῦν ἔπος,  
πλεκταῖσιν ἀρτάναισι λωβᾶται βίον·  
55 τρίτον δ' ἀδελφῷ δύο μίαν καθ' ἡμέραν

ANTIGONE.

and is coming hither to proclaim it clearly to those who know it not ; nor counts the matter light, but, who so disobeys in aught, his doom is death by stoning before all the folk. Thou knowest it now ; and thou wilt soon show whether thou art nobly bred, or the base daughter of a noble line.

Is. Poor sister, — and if things stand thus, what could I help to do or undo ?

AN. Consider if thou wilt share the toil and the deed.

Is. In what venture ? What can be thy meaning ?

AN. Wilt thou aid this hand to lift the dead ?

Is. Thou wouldest bury him, — when 'tis forbidden to Thebes ?

AN. I will do my part, — and thine, if thou wilt not, — to a brother. False to him will I never be found.

Is. Ah, over-bold ! when Creon hath forbidden ?

AN. Nay, he hath no right to keep me from mine own.

Is. Ah me ! think, sister, how our father perished, amid hate and scorn, when sins bared by his own search had moved him to strike both eyes with self-blinding hand ; then the mother wife,

- αὐτοκτονοῦντε, τῷ ταλαιπώρῳ, μόνον  
 κοινὸν κατειργάσαντ' ἐπ' ἀλλήλοιον χεροῖν.  
 νῦν δ' αὖ μόνον δὴ νῶ λελειμμένα σκόπει  
 ὄσῳ κάκιστ' ὀλοόμεθ', εἰ νόμου βία  
 60 ψῆφον τυράννων ἢ κράτη παρέξιμεν.  
 ἀλλ' ἐννοεῖν χρή τοῦτο μὲν γυναιχ' ὅτι  
 ἔφυνεν, ὥς πρὸς ἄνδρας οὐ μαχομένα·  
 ἔπειτα δ' οὐνεκ' ἀρχόμεσθ' ἐκ κρεισσόνων,  
 καὶ ταῦτ' ἀκούειν κατὰ τῶνδ' ἀλγίονα.  
 65 ἐγὼ μὲν οὖν αἰτοῦσα τοὺς ὑπὸ χθονὸς  
 ξύγγονοιαν ἴσχεω, ὥς βιάζομαι τάδε,  
 τοῖς ἐν τέλει βεβῶσι πείσομαι· τὸ γὰρ  
 περισσὰ πράσσειν οὐκ ἔχει νοῦν οὐδένα.

ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΗ.

- οὐτ' ἂν κελεύσαιμ' οὐτ' ἂν, εἰ θέλοις ἔτι  
 70 πράσσειν, ἐμοῦ γ' ἂν ἡδέως δρώης μέτα.  
 ἀλλ' ἴσθ' ὅποια σοι δοκεῖ· κέινον δ' ἐγὼ  
 θάψω. καλὸν μοι τοῦτο ποιούσῃ θανεῖ·  
 φίλῃ μετ' αὐτοῦ κείσομαι, φίλον μέτα,  
 ὅσα πανουργήσας· ἐπεὶ πλείων χρόνος  
 75 ὃν δεῖ μ' ἀρέσκεν τοῖς κάτω τῶν ἐνθάδε·  
 ἐκεῖ γὰρ αἰεὶ κείσομαι. σοὶ δ' εἰ δοκεῖ,  
 τὰ τῶν θεῶν ἔντιμ' ἀτιμάσας ἔχε.

ΙΣΜΗΝΗ.

ἐγὼ μὲν οὐκ ἄτιμα ποιоῦμαι, τὸ δὲ  
 βία πολιτῶν δρᾶν ἔφυν ἀμήχανος.

ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΗ.

- 80 σὺ μὲν τάδ' ἂν προὔχοι· ἐγὼ δὲ δὴ τάφον  
 χώσουσ' ἀδελπῷ φιλτάτῳ πορεύσομαι.

two names in one, with twisted noose did despite unto her life; and last, our two brothers in one day,—each shedding, hapless one, a kinsman's blood,—wrought out with mutual hands their common doom. And now *we* in turn—we two left all alone—think how we shall perish, more miserably than all the rest, if, in defiance of the law, we brave a king's decree or his powers. Nay, we must remember, first, that we were born women, as who should not strive with men; next, that we are ruled of the stronger, so that we must obey in these things, and in things yet sorer. I, therefore, asking the Spirits Infernal to pardon, seeing that force is put on me herein, will hearken to our rulers; for 'tis witless to be over-busy.

AN. I will not urge thee,—no, nor, if thou yet shouldst have the mind, wouldst thou be welcome as a worker with *me*. Nay, be what thou wilt; but I will bury him: well for me to die in doing that. I shall rest, a loved one with him whom I have loved, sinless in my crime; for I owe a longer allegiance to the dead than to the living: in that world I shall abide forever. But if *thou* wilt, be guilty of dishonoring laws which the gods have stablished in honor.

ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΗ.

ΙΣΜΗΝΗ.

οἴμοι ταλαίνης, ὥς ὑπερδέδοικά σου.

ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΗ.

μή μου προτάρβει· τὸν σὸν ἐξόρθου πότμον.

ΙΣΜΗΝΗ.

ἀλλ' οὖν προμηνύσης γε τοῦτο μηδενὶ  
85 τοῦργον, κρυφῇ δὲ κεῖθε, σὺν δ' αὐτῶς ἐγώ.

ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΗ.

οἴμοι, καταύδα. πολλὸν ἐχθίων ἔσει  
σιγῶς, εἰ μὴ πᾶσι κηρύξης τάδε.

ΙΣΜΗΝΗ.

θερμὴν ἐπὶ ψυχροῖσι καρδίαν ἔχεις.

ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΗ.

ἀλλ' οἶδ' ἀρέσκουσ' οἷς μάλισθ' ἀδεῖν με χρή.

ΙΣΜΗΝΗ.

90 εἰ καὶ δυνήσει γ'. ἀλλ' ἀμηχάνων ἐράς.

ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΗ.

οὐκοῦν, ὅταν δὴ μὴ σθένω, πεπαύσομαι.

ΙΣΜΗΝΗ.

ἀρχὴν δὲ θηρῶν οὐ πρέπει τὰμήχανα.

ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΗ.

εἰ ταῦτα λέξεις, ἐχθαρεῖ μὲν ἐξ ἐμοῦ,  
ἐχθρὰ δὲ τῷ θανόντι προσκείσει δίκη.  
95 ἀλλ' ἔα με καὶ τὴν ἐξ ἐμοῦ δυσβουλίαν

ANTIGONE.

IS. I do them no dishonor; but to defy the State,—I have no strength for that.

AN. Such be thy plea:—I, then, will go to heap the earth above the brother whom I love.

IS. Alas, unhappy one! How I fear for thee!

AN. Fear not for me: guide thine own fate aright.

IS. At least, then, disclose this plan to none, but hide it closely,—and so, too, will I.

AN. Oh, denounce it! Thou wilt be far more hateful for thy silence, if thou proclaim not these things to all.

IS. Thou hast a hot heart for chilling deeds.

AN. I know that I please where I am most bound to please.

IS. Aye, if thou canst; but thou wouldst what thou canst not.

AN. Why, then, when my strength fails, I shall have done.

IS. A hopeless quest should not be made at all.

AN. If thus thou speakest, thou wilt have hatred from me, and wilt justly be subject to the lasting hatred of the dead. But leave me, and the folly that is mine alone, to suffer this dread thing;

ΣΟΦΟΚΛΕΟΥΣ

παθεῖν τὸ δεῶν τούτο· πείσομαι γὰρ οὐ  
τοσοῦτον οὐδέν, ὥστε μὴ οὐ καλῶς θανεῖν.

ΙΣΜΗΝΗ.

ἀλλ' εἰ δοκεῖ σοι, στεῖχε. τοῦτο δ' ἴσθ', ὅτι  
ἄνους μὲν ἔρχει, τοῖς φίλοις δ' ὀρθῶς φίλη.

SECOND SCENE. CHORUS. AFTERWARDS CREON WITH TWO  
HERALDS.

Πάροδος.

ΧΟΡΟΣ.

Στροφή α.

100 ἄκτις ἀελίου, τὸ κάλλιστον ἑπταπύλῳ φανὲν Θήβα  
τῶν προτέρων φάος,  
ἐφάνθη ποτ', ὦ χρυσέας ἀμέρας βλέφαρον, Διρκαίων  
105 ὑπὲρ ῥεέθρων μολοῦσα,  
τὸν λεύκασπιν Ἀργόθεν [ἔκ] φῶτα βάντα πανσαγία,  
φυγάδα πρόδρομον ὀξυτέρῳ κινήσασα χαλινῶ·

110 ὃν ἐφ' ἡμετέρα γῇ Πολυνείκης,  
ἄρθεις νεικέων ἐξ ἀμφιλόγων,  
\* \* \* ὀξέα κλάζων  
αἰετὸς ἐς γῆν ὥς ὑπερέπτη,  
λευκῆς χιόνος πτέρυγι στεγανός,  
115 πολλῶν μεθ' ὀπλων  
ξύν θ' ἱπποκόμοις κορύθεσσω.

Ἀντιστροφή α.

στὰς δ' ὑπὲρ μελάνθρων φονώταισιν ἀμφιχανὼν  
κύκλῳ λόγχαις ἑπτάπυλον στόμα,

ANTIGONE.

for I shall not suffer aught so dreadful as an ignoble death.

Is. Go, then, if thou must; and of this be sure, — that, though thine errand is foolish, to thy dear ones thou art truly dear.

*Exit ANTIGONE on the spectators' left. ISMENE retires into the palace by one of the two side-doors.*

SECOND SCENE. CHORUS. AFTERWARDS CREON WITH TWO HERALDS.

CHORUS.

Beam of the sun, fairest light that ever dawned on Thebè of the seven gates, thou hast shone forth at last, eye of golden day, arisen above Dirce's streams! The warrior of the white shield, who came from Argos in his panoply, hath been stirred by thee to headlong flight, in swifter career; who set forth against our land by reason of the vexed claims of Polyneices; and, like shrill-screaming eagle, he flew over into our land, in snow-white pinion sheathed, with an armèd throng, and with plumage of helms.

He paused above our dwellings; he ravened around our sevenfold portals with spears athirst

120 ἔβα, πρίν ποθ' ἀμετέρων αἱμάτων γένυσιν πλησθῆναι  
 τε καὶ στεφάνωμα πύργων  
 πενκάενθ' Ἥφαιστον ἐλείν. τοῖος ἀμφὶ νῶτ' ἐτάθη  
 125 πάταγος Ἄρεος, ἀντιπάλῳ δυσχείρωμα δράκοντι.

Ζεὺς γὰρ μεγάλης γλώσσης κόμπους  
 ὑπερεχθαίρει, καὶ σφας ἐσιδὼν  
 πολλῷ ρεύματι προσνισσομένους  
 130 χρυσοῦ καναχῆς ὑπέροπτα,  
 παλτῷ ῥίπτει πυρὶ βαλβίδων  
 ἐπ' ἄκρων ἤδη  
 νίκην ὀρμώντ' ἀλαλάξαι.

Στροφή β'.

ἀντίτυπος δ' ἐπὶ γᾶ πέσε τανταλωθεῖς,  
 135 πυρφόρος ὃς τότε μαινομένα ξὺν ὀρμᾷ  
 βακχεύων ἐπέπνει ῥιπαῖς ἐχθίστων ἀνέμων.  
 εἶχε δ' ἄλλα τὰ μέν,  
 140 ἄλλα δ' ἐπ' ἄλλοις ἐπενώμα στυφελίζων μέγας Ἄρης  
 δεξιόσειρος.

ἐπὰ λοχαγοὶ γὰρ ἐφ' ἐπὰ πύλαις  
 ταχθέντες ἴσοι πρὸς ἴσους ἔλιπον  
 Ζηνὶ τροπαίῳ πάγχαλκα τέλη,  
 πλὴν τοῖν στυγεροῖν, ὧ πατρὸς ἐνὸς  
 145 μητρός τε μιᾶς φύντε καθ' αὐτοῖν  
 δικρατεῖς λόγχας στήσαντ' ἔχον  
 κοινοῦ θανάτου μέρος ἄμφω.

Ἀντιστροφή β'.

ἀλλὰ γὰρ ἃ μεγαλῶνυμος ἦλθε Νίκα  
 τᾷ πολυαρμάτῳ ἀντιχαρεῖσα Θήβα,

## ANTIGONE.

for blood; but he went hence, or ever his jaws were glutted with our gore, or the Fire-god's pine-fed flame had seized our crown of towers. So fierce was the noise of battle raised behind him, a thing too hard for him to conquer, as he wrestled with his dragon foe.

For Zeus utterly abhors the boasts of a proud tongue; and when he beheld them coming on in a great stream, in the haughty pride of clanging gold, he smote with brandished fire one who was now hastening to shout victory at his goal upon our ramparts.

Swung down, he fell on the earth with a crash, torch in hand, he who so lately, in the frenzy of the mad onset, was raging against us with the blasts of his tempestuous hate. But those threats fared not as he hoped; and to other foes the mighty War-god dispensed their several dooms, dealing havoc around, a mighty helper at our need.

For seven captains at seven gates, matched against seven, left the tribute of their panoplies to Zeus who turns the battle; save those two of cruel fate, who, born of one sire and one mother, set against each other their twain conquering spears, and are sharers in a common death.

But since Victory of glorious name hath come to us, with joy responsive to the joy of Thebè whose

- 150 ἐκ μὲν δὴ πολέμων τῶν νῦν θέσθε λησμοσύνα,  
θεῶν δὲ ναοὺς χοροῖς  
παννυχίοις πάντας ἐπέλθωμεν, ὁ Θήβας δ' ἐλελίχθων  
Βάκχιος ἄρχοι.
- 155 ἀλλ' ὅδε γὰρ δὴ βασιλεὺς χώρας,  
Κρέων ὁ Μενοικέως, νεοχμὸς [ταγός],  
νεαραῖσι θεῶν ἐπὶ συντυχίαις  
χωρεῖ, τίνα δὴ μῆτιν ἑρέσσω,  
ὅτι σύγκλητον τήνδε γερόντων
- 160 προὔθετο λέσχην  
κοινῷ κηρύγματι πέμψας ;

Ἐπεισόδιον α'.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

- ἄνδρες, τὰ μὲν δὴ πόλεος ἀσφαλῶς θεοὶ  
πολλῷ σάλῳ σείσαντες ὤρθωσαν πάλιν·  
ὕμᾱς δ' ἐγὼ πομποῖσιν ἐκ πάντων δίχα
- 165 ἔστειλ' ἰκέσθαι, τοῦτο μὲν τὰ Λαῖου  
σέβοντας εἰδὼς εὖ θρόνων ἀεὶ κράτη,  
τοῦτ' αὔθις, ἥνικ' Οἰδίπους ὤρθου πόλιν,  
κάπει διώλετ', ἀμφὶ τοὺς κείνων ἔτι  
παῖδας μένοντας ἐμπέδοις φρονήμασιν.
- 170 οὔτ' οὖν ἐκεῖνοι πρὸς διπλῆς μοίρας μίαν  
καθ' ἡμέραν ὦλοντο, παῖσαντές τε καὶ  
πληγέντες αὐτόχειρι σὺν μιάσματι,  
ἐγὼ κράτη δὴ πάντα καὶ θρόνους ἔχω  
γένους κατ' ἀγχιστεῖα τῶν ὀλωλότων.
- 175 ἀμύχανον δὲ παντὸς ἀνδρὸς ἐκμαθεῖν  
ψυχὴν τε καὶ φρόνημα καὶ γνώμην, πρὶν ἂν

chariots are many, let us enjoy forgetfulness after the late wars, and visit all the temples of the gods with night-long dance and song; and may Bacchus be our leader, whose dancing shakes the land of Thebè.

But lo, the king of the land comes yonder, Creon, son of Monoeceus, our new ruler by the new fortunes that the gods have given; what counsel is he pondering, that he hath proposed this special conference of elders, summoned by his general mandate?

*Enter CREON, from the central doors of the palace, in the garb of king; with two attendants.*

CR. Sirs, the vessel of our State, after being tossed on wild waves, hath once more been safely steadied by the gods; and ye, out of all the folk, have been called apart by my summons, because I knew, first of all, how true and constant was your reverence for the royal power of Laius; how, again, when Oedipus was ruler of our land, and when he had perished, your steadfast loyalty still upheld their children. Since, then, his sons have fallen in one day by a twofold doom,—each smitten by the other, each stained with a brother's blood,—I now possess the throne and all its powers, by nearness of kinship to the dead.

No man can be fully known, in soul and spirit and mind, until he hath been seen versed in rule

- ἀρχαῖς τε καὶ νόμοισιν ἐντριβῆς φανῇ.  
 ἔμοι γὰρ ὅστις πᾶσαν εὐθύνων πόλιν  
 μὴ τῶν ἀρίστων ἄπτεται βουλευμάτων,  
 180 ἀλλ' ἐκ φόβου του γλῶσσαν ἐγκλήσας ἔχει,  
 κάκιστος εἶναι νῦν τε καὶ πάλαι δοκεῖ.  
 καὶ μείζον ὅστις ἀντὶ τῆς αὐτοῦ πάτρας  
 φίλον νομίζει, τοῦτον οὐδαμοῦ λέγω.  
 ἐγὼ γάρ, ἴστω Ζεὺς ὁ πάνθ' ὀρώων ἀεὶ,  
 185 οὔτ' ἂν σιωπήσαιμι τὴν αἴτην ὀρώων  
 στείχουσιν ἀστοῖς ἀντὶ τῆς σωτηρίας,  
 οὔτ' ἂν φίλον ποτ' ἄνδρα δυσμενῇ χθονὸς  
 θείμην ἐμαυτῷ, τοῦτο γινώσκων ὅτι  
 ἥδ' ἐστὶν ἡ σῶζουσα, καὶ ταύτης ἔπι  
 190 πλέοντες ὀρθῆς τοὺς φίλους ποιοῦμεθα.  
 τοιοῖσδ' ἐγὼ νόμοισι τήνδ' αὔξω πόλιν.  
 καὶ νῦν ἀδελφὰ τῶνδε κηρύξας ἔχω  
 ἀστοῖσι παίδων τῶν ἀπ' Οἰδίπου πέρι·  
 Ἑτεοκλέα μὲν, ὃς πόλεως ὑπερμαχῶν  
 195 ὄλωλε τῆσδε, πάντ' ἀριστεύσας δορί,  
 τάφῳ τε κρύψαι καὶ τὰ πάντ' ἐφαγνίσαι  
 ἅ τοῖς ἀρίστοις ἔρχεται κάτω νεκροῖς·  
 τὸν δ' αὖ ξύναιμον τοῦδε, Πολυνείκην λέγω,  
 ὃς γῆν πατρώαν καὶ θεοὺς τοὺς ἐγγενεῖς  
 200 φυγὰς κατελθὼν ἠθέλησε μὲν πυρὶ  
 πρῆσαι κατάκρας, ἠθέλησε δ' αἵματος  
 κοινοῦ πάσασθαι, τοὺς δὲ δουλώσας ἄγειν  
 τοῦτον πόλει τῇδ' ἐκκεκήρυκται τάφῳ  
 μήτε κτερίζειν μήτε κωκῦσαί τινα,  
 205 ἔαν δ' ἄθαπτον καὶ πρὸς οἰωνῶν δέμας  
 καὶ πρὸς κυνῶν ἐδεσθὸν αἰκισθῆν τ' ἰδεῖν.  
 τοιόνδ' ἐμὸν φρόνημα, κοῦ ποτ' ἔκ γ' ἐμοῦ

and law-giving. For if any, being supreme guide of the State, cleaves not to the best counsels, but through some fear, keeps his lips locked, I hold, and have ever held, him most base; and if any makes a friend of more account than his fatherland, that man hath no place in my regard. For I—be Zeus my witness, who sees all things always—would not be silent if I saw ruin, instead of safety, coming to the citizens; nor would I ever deem the country's foe a friend to myself; remembering this, that our country is the ship that bears us safe, and that only while she prospers in our voyage can we make true friends.

Such are the rules by which I guard this city's greatness. And in accord with them is the edict which I have now published to the folk touching the sons of Oedipus;—that Eteocles, who hath fallen fighting for our city, in all renown of arms, shall be entombed, and crowned with every rite that follows the noblest dead to their rest. But for his brother, Polyneices,—who came back from exile, and sought to consume utterly with fire the city of his fathers and the shrines of his fathers' gods,—sought to taste of kindred blood, and to lead the remnant into slavery;—touching this man it hath been proclaimed to our people that none shall grace him with sepulture or lament, but leave

ΣΟΦΟΚΛΕΟΥΣ

τιμὴν προέξουσ' οἱ κακοὶ τῶν ἐνδίκων.  
ἀλλ' ὅστις εὖνους τῇδε τῇ πόλει, θανῶν  
210 καὶ ζῶν ὁμοίως ἔξ ἐμοῦ τιμῆσεται.

ΧΟΡΟΣ.

στοὶ ταῦτ' ἀρέσκει, παῖ Μενοικέως Κρέων,  
τὸν τῇδε δύσνουν καὶ τὸν εὐμενῇ πόλει.  
νόμῳ δὲ χρῆσθαι παντί που γ' ἔνεστί σοι  
καὶ τῶν θανόντων χῶπόσοι ζῶμεν πέρι.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

215 ὥς ἂν σκοποὶ νυν ᾗτε τῶν εἰρημένων.

ΧΟΡΟΣ.

νεωτέρῳ τῷ τοῦτο βαστάζειν πρόθεες.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

ἀλλ' εἴς' ἐτοῖμοι τοῦ νεκροῦ γ' ἐπίσκοποι.

ΧΟΡΟΣ.

τί δῆτ' ἂν ἄλλο τοῦτ' ἐπεντέλλοις ἔτι;

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

τὸ μὴ 'πιχωρεῖν τοῖς ἀπιστοῦσιν τάδε.

ΧΟΡΟΣ.

220 οὐκ ἔστιν οὕτω μῶρος, ὅς θανεῖν ἐρᾷ.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

καὶ μὴν ὁ μισθός γ' οὗτος· ἀλλ' ὑπ' ἐλπίδων  
ἄνδρας τὸ κέρδος πολλάκις διώλεσεν.

him unburied, a corpse for birds and dogs to eat, a ghastly sight of shame.

Such the spirit of my dealing; and never, by deed of mine, shall the wicked stand in honor before the just; but whoso hath good will to Thebes, he shall be honored of me, in his life and in his death.

CH. Such is thy pleasure, Creon, son of Menoeceus, touching this city's foe, and its friend; and thou hast power, I ween, to take what order thou wilt, both for the dead, and for all us who live.

CR. See, then, that ye be guardians of the mandate.

CH. Lay the burden of this task on some younger man.

CR. Nay, watchers of the corpse have been found.

CH. What, then, is this further charge that thou wouldst give?

CR. That ye side not with the breakers of these commands.

CH. No man is so foolish that he is enamored of death.

CR. In sooth, that is the meed; yet lucre hath oft ruined men through their hopes.

ANTIGONH.

THIRD SCENE. CREON. GUARD.

ΦΥΛΑΞ.

ἄναξ, ἐρῶ μὲν οὐχ ὅπως τάχους ὑπο  
 δύσπνους ἰκάνω, κοῦφον ἰξάρας πόδα.  
 225 πολλὰς γὰρ ἔσχον φροντίδων ἐπιστάσεις,  
 ὁδοῖς κυκλῶν ἑμαυτὸν εἰς ἀναστροφὴν.  
 ψυχὴ γὰρ ἡὔδα πολλά μοι μυθουμένη·  
 τάλας, τί χωρεῖς οἱ μολῶν δώσεις δίκην;  
 τλήμων, μένεις αὖ; κεῖ τὰδ' εἴσεται Κρέων  
 230 ἄλλου παρ' ἀνδρός, πῶς σὺ δῆτ' οὐκ ἀλγυνεῖ;  
 τοιαῦθ' ἐλίσσων ἥνυτον σπουδῇ βραδύς,  
 χούτως ὁδὸς βραχεῖα γίγνεται μακρά.  
 τέλος γε μέντοι δεῦρ' ἐνίκησεν μολεῖν  
 σοί. κεῖ τὸ μηδὲν ἔξερω, φράσω δ' ὅμως·  
 235 τῆς ἐλπίδος γὰρ ἔρχομαι δεδραγμένος,  
 τὸ μὴ παθεῖν ἂν ἄλλο πλὴν τὸ μόρσιμον.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

τί δ' ἔστιν ἀνθ' οὗ τήνδ' ἔχεις ἀθυμίαν;

ΦΥΛΑΞ.

φράσαι θέλω σοι πρῶτα τὰμαντοῦ· τὸ γὰρ  
 πρᾶγμ' οὐτ' ἔδρας' οὐτ' εἶδον ὅστις ἦν ὁ δρῶν,  
 240 οὐδ' ἂν δικαίως ἐς κακὸν πέσοιμί τι.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

εἶ γε στοχάζει κάποφράγνυσαι κύκλῳ  
 τὸ πρᾶγμα. δηλοῖς δ' ὥς τι σημανῶν νέον.

ΦΥΛΑΞ.

τὰ δεινὰ γάρ τοι προστίθης' ὅκνον πολύν.

ANTIGONE.

THIRD SCENE. CREON. GUARD.

*Enter GUARD.*

My liege, I will not say that I come breathless from speed, or that I have plied a nimble foot; for often did my thoughts make me pause, and wheel around in my path, to return. My mind was holding large discourse with me; 'Fool, why goest thou to thy certain doom?' 'Wretch, tarrying again? And if Creon hears this from another, must not thou smart for it?' So debating, I went on my way with lagging steps, and thus a short road was made long. At last, however, it carried the day that I should come hither—to thee; and, though my tale be nought, yet will I tell it; for I come with a good grip on one hope,—that I can suffer nothing but what is my fate.

CR. And what is it that disquiets thee thus?

GU. I wish to tell thee first about myself—I did not do the deed—I did not see the doer—it were not right that I should come to any harm.

CR. Thou hast a shrewd eye for thy mark; well dost thou fence thyself round against the blame:—clearly thou hast some strange thing to tell.

GU. Aye, truly; dread news makes one pause long.

## ΣΟΦΟΚΛΕΟΥΣ

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

οὔκουν ἐρεῖς ποτ', εἴτ' ἀπαλλαχθεὶς ἄπει;

ΦΥΛΑΞ.

245 καὶ δὴ λέγω σοι. τὸν νεκρόν τις ἀρτίως  
θάψας βέβηκε καπὶ χρωτὶ διψίαν  
κόνιν παλύννας κάφαγιστεύσας ἅ χροή.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

τί φῆς; τίς ἀνδρῶν ἦν ὁ τολμήσας τάδε;

ΦΥΛΑΞ.

οὐκ οἶδ'· ἐκεῖ γὰρ οὔτε που γενῆδος ἦν  
250 πλήγμ', οὐ δικέλλης ἐκβολή· στυφλος δὲ γῆ  
καὶ χέρσος, ἀρρῶξ οὐδ' ἐπημαξευμένη  
τροχοῖσιν, ἀλλ' ἄσημος οὐργάτης τις ἦν.  
ὅπως δ' ὁ πρῶτος ἡμῖν ἡμεροσκόπος  
δείκνυσσι, πᾶσι θαῦμα δυσχερὲς παρῆν.  
255 ὁ μὲν γὰρ ἠφάνιστο, τυμβήρης μὲν οὐ,  
λεπτῇ δ', ἄγος φεύγοντος ὤς, ἐπῆν κόνις.  
σημεῖα δ' οὔτε θηρὸς οὔτε του κυνῶν  
ἐλθόντος, οὐ σπάσαντος, ἐξεφαίνετο.  
λόγοι δ' ἐν ἀλλήλοισιν ἐρρόθουν κακοί,  
260 φύλαξ ἐλέγχων φύλακα· κἂν ἐγίγνετο  
πληγὴ τελευτῶσ', οὐδ' ὁ κωλύσων παρῆν·  
εἰς γάρ τις ἦν ἕκαστος οὐξειργασμένος,  
\* κούδεις ἐναργής, ἀλλ' ἔφευγε μὴ εἰδέναι·  
ἦμεν δ' ἐτοῖμοι καὶ μύδρους αἶρειν χεροῖν  
265 καὶ πῦρ διέρπειν καὶ θεοὺς ὀρκωμοτεῖν  
τὸ μήτε δρᾶσαι μήτε τῷ ξυνειδέναι  
τὸ πρᾶγμα βουλευσάντι μήτ' εἰργασμένῳ.  
τέλος δ', ὅτ' οὐδὲν ἦν ἐρευνῶσι πλέον,

CR. Then tell it, wilt thou, and so get thee gone?

GU. Well, this is it. — The corpse — some one hath just given it burial, and gone away, — after sprinkling thirsty dust on the flesh, with such other rites as piety enjoins.

CR. What sayest thou? What living man hath dared this deed?

GU. I know not; no stroke of pickaxe was seen there, no earth thrown up by mattock; the ground was hard and dry, unbroken, without track of wheels; the doer was one who had left no trace. And when the first day-watchman showed it to us, sore wonder fell on all. The dead man was veiled from us; not shut within a tomb, but lightly strewn with dust, as by the hand of one who shunned a curse. And no sign met the eye as though any beast of prey or any dog had come nigh to him, or torn him.

Then evil words flew fast and loud among us, guard accusing guard; and it would e'en have come to blows at last, nor was there any to hinder. Every man was the culprit, and no one was convicted, but all disclaimed knowledge of the deed. And we were ready to take red-hot iron in our hands; — to walk through fire; — to make oath by the gods that we had not done the deed, — that we were not privy to the planning or the doing.

# ANTIGONH.

λέγει τις εἷς, ὃς πάντας ἐς πέδον κάρᾳ  
 270 νεῦσαι φόβῳ προὔτρεψεν· οὐ γὰρ εἴχομεν  
 οὐτ' ἀντιφωνεῖν, οὐθ' ὅπως δρώντες καλῶς  
 πράξαιμεν. ἦν δ' ὁ μῦθος ὡς ἀνοιστέον  
 σοὶ τοῦργον εἶη τοῦτο κούχῃ κρυπτέον.  
 καὶ ταῦτ' ἐνίκα, καμὲ τὸν δυσδαίμονα  
 275 πάλος καθαιρεῖ τοῦτο τάγαθὸν λαβεῖν.  
 πάρειμι δ' ἄκων οὐχ ἐκούσιν, οἶδ' ὅτι·  
 στέργει γὰρ οὐδεὶς ἄγγελον κακῶν ἐπῶν.

ΧΟΡΟΣ.

ἄναξ, ἐμοί τοι, μή τι καὶ θεήλατον  
 τοῦργον τόδ', ἢ ξύννοια βουλεύει πάλαι.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

280 παῦσαι πρὶν ὀργῆς καί με μεστῶσαι λέγων,  
 μὴ 'φευρεθῆς ἄνους τε καὶ γέρων ἅμα.  
 λέγεις γὰρ οὐκ ἀνεκτά, δαίμονας λέγων  
 πρόνοιαν ἴσχειν τοῦδε τοῦ νεκροῦ πέρι.  
 πότερον ὑπερτιμῶντες ὡς εὐεργέτην  
 285 ἔκρυπτον αὐτόν, ὅστις ἀμφικίονας  
 ναοὺς πυρώσων ἦλθε κἀναθήματα  
 καὶ γῆν ἐκείνων, καὶ νόμους διασκεδῶν·  
 ἢ τοὺς κακοὺς τιμῶντας εἰσορᾶς θεοῦς ;  
 οὐκ ἔστιν. ἀλλὰ ταῦτα καὶ πάλαι πόλεως  
 290 ἄνδρες μόλις φέροντες ἐρρόθουν ἐμοί,  
 κρυφῇ κάρᾳ σείοντες, οὐδ' ὑπὸ ζυγῷ  
 λόφον δικαίως εἶχον, ὡς στέργειν ἐμέ.  
 ἐκ τῶνδε τούτους ἐξεπίσταμαι καλῶς  
 παρηγμένους μισθοῖσιν εἰργάσθαι τάδε.  
 295 οὐδὲν γὰρ ἀνθρώποισιν οἶον ἄργυρος  
 κακὸν νόμισμ' ἔβλαστε. τοῦτο καὶ πόλεις

## ANTIGONE.

At last, when all our searching was fruitless, one spake, who made us all bend our faces on the earth in fear; for we saw not how we could gainsay him, or escape mischance if we obeyed. His counsel was that this deed must be reported to thee, and not hidden. And this seemed best; and the lot doomed my hapless self to win this prize. So here I stand,—as unwelcome as unwilling, well I wot; for no man delights in the bearer of bad news.

CH. O King, my thoughts have long been whispering, can this deed, perchance, be e'en the work of gods?

CR. Cease, ere thy words fill me utterly with wrath, lest thou be found at once an old man and foolish. For thou sayest what is not to be borne, in saying that the gods have care for this corpse. Was it for high reward of trusty service that they sought to hide his nakedness, who came to burn their pillared shrines and sacred treasures, to burn their land, and scatter its laws to the winds? Or dost thou behold the gods honoring the wicked? It cannot be. No! From the first there were certain in the town that muttered against me, chafing at this edict, wagging their heads in secret; and kept not their necks duly under the yoke, like men contented with my sway.

πορθεῖ, τόδ' ἄνδρας ἐξανίστησιν δόμων,  
 τόδ' ἐκδιδάσκει καὶ παραλλάσσει φρένας  
 χρηστὰς πρὸς αἰσχρὰ πράγμαθ' ἵστασθαι βροτῶν.  
 300 πανουργίας δ' ἔδειξεν ἀνθρώποις ἔχειν  
 καὶ παντὸς ἔργου δυσσέβειαν εἰδέναι.  
 ὅτοι δὲ μισθαρνοῦντες ἤνυσαν τάδε,  
 χρόνῳ ποτ' ἐξέπραξαν ὥς δοῦναι δίκην.  
 ἀλλ' εἴπερ ἴσχει Ζεὺς ἔτ' ἐξ ἐμοῦ σέβας,  
 305 εἴ τοῦτ' ἐπίστασ', ὄρκιος δέ σοι λέγω,  
 εἰ μὴ τὸν αὐτόχειρα τοῦδε τοῦ τάφου  
 εὐρόντες ἐκφανεῖτ' ἐς ὀφθαλμοὺς ἐμούς,  
 οὐχ ὑμῖν Ἄιδης μῦθος ἀρκέσει, πρὶν ἂν  
 ζῶντες κρεμαστοὶ τήνδε δηλώσῃθ' ὕβριν,  
 310 ἢν' εἰδότες τὸ κέρδος ἔνθεν οἰστέον,  
 τὸ λοιπὸν ἀρπάζῃτε καὶ μάθῃθ' ὅτι  
 οὐκ ἐξ ἅπαντος δεῖ τὸ κερδαίνειν φιλεῖν.  
 ἐκ τῶν γὰρ αἰσχρῶν λημμάτων τοὺς πλείονας  
 ἀτωμένους ἴδοις ἂν ἢ σεσσωσμένους.

ΦΥΛΑΞ.

315 εἰπεῖν τι δώσεις, ἢ στραφεῖς οὕτως ἴω;

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

οὐκ οἶσθα καὶ νῦν ὥς ἀνιαρῶς λέγεις;

ΦΥΛΑΞ.

ἐν τοῖσιν ὥσιν ἢ 'πὶ τῇ ψυχῇ δάκνει;

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

τί δαί; ρυθμίζεις τὴν ἐμὴν λύπην ὅπου;

ΦΥΛΑΞ.

ὁ δρῶν σ' ἀνιᾶ τὰς φρένας, τὰ δ' ὦτ' ἐγώ.

ANTIGONE.

'Tis by them, well I know, that these have been beguiled and bribed to do this deed. Nothing so evil as money ever grew to be current among men. This lays cities low, this drives men from their homes, this trains and warps honest souls till they set themselves to works of shame; this still teaches folk to practise villanies, and to know every godless deed.

But all the men who wrought this thing for hire have made it sure that, soon or late, they shall pay the price. Now, as Zeus still hath my reverence, know this—I tell it thee on my oath:—If ye find not the very author of this burial, and produce him before mine eyes, death alone shall not be enough for you, till first, hung up alive, ye have revealed this outrage,—that henceforth ye may thief with better knowledge whence lucre should be won, and learn that it is not well to love gain from every source. For thou wilt find that ill-gotten pelf brings more men to ruin than to weal.

GU. May I speak? Or shall I just turn and go?

CR. Knowest thou not that even now thy voice offends?

GU. Is thy smart in the ears, or in the soul?

CR. And why wouldst thou define the seat of my pain?

ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΗ.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

320 οἴμ' ὥς ἄλῃμα δῆλον ἐκπεφυκὸς εἶ.

ΦΥΛΑΞ.

οὐκουν τό γ' ἔργον τοῦτο ποιήσας ποτέ.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

καὶ ταῦτ' ἐπ' ἀργύρῳ γε τὴν ψυχὴν προδοῦς.

ΦΥΛΑΞ.

φέυ·

ἦ δεινὸν ᾧ δοκεῖ γε καὶ ψευδὴ δοκεῖν.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

κόμψευε νῦν τὴν δόξαν· εἰ δὲ ταῦτα μὴ  
325 φανεῖτέ μοι τοὺς δρῶντας, ἐξερεῖθ' ὅτι  
τὰ δειλὰ κέρδη πημονὰς ἐργάζεται.

ΦΥΛΑΞ.

ἀλλ' εὐρεθείη μὲν μάλιστ'· ἐὰν δέ τοι  
ληφθῇ τε καὶ μή, τοῦτο γὰρ τύχη κρινεῖ,  
οὐκ ἔσθ' ὅπως ὄψει σὺ δεῦρ' ἐλθόντα με.  
330 καὶ νῦν γὰρ ἐκτὸς ἐλπίδος γνώμης τ' ἐμῆς  
σωθεῖς ὀφείλω τοῖς θεοῖς πολλὴν χάριν.

Στάσιμον ἄ.

ΧΟΡΟΣ.

Στροφὴ ἄ.

πολλὰ τὰ δεινὰ, κοῦδὲν ἀνθρώπου δεινότερον πέλει·  
335 τοῦτο καὶ πολιοῦ πέραν πόντου χιμερίῳ νότῳ  
χωρεῖ, περιβρυχίοισιν  
περῶν ὑπ' οἷδμασιν,  
θεῶν τε τὰν ὑπερτάταν, Γᾶν

ANTIGONE.

GU. The doer vexes thy mind, but I, thine ears.

CR. Ah, thou art a born babbler, 'tis well seen.

GU. May be, but never the doer of this deed.

CR. Yea, and more,—the seller of thy life for silver.

GU. Alas! 'Tis sad, truly, that he who judges should misjudge.

CR. Let thy fancy play with 'judgment' as it will;—but, if ye show me not the doers of these things, ye shall avow that dastardly gains work sorrows. [Exit.]

GU. Well, may he be found! so 'twere best. But, be he caught, or be he not—fortune must settle that—truly thou wilt not see me here again. Saved, even now, beyond hope and thought, I owe the gods great thanks. [Exit.]

CHORUS.

Wonders are many, and none is more wonderful than man; the power that crosses the white sea, driven by the stormy south-wind, making a path under surges that threaten to engulf him; and Earth, the eldest of the gods, the immortal, the unwearied, doth he wear, turning the soil with the offspring of horses, as the ploughs go to and fro from year to year.

ἄφθιτον, ἀκαμάταν ἀποτρύεται,  
 340 ἰλλομένων ἀρότρων ἔτος εἰς ἔτος,  
 ἱππεῖω γένει πολεύων.

Ἀντιστροφή α΄.

κουφονόων τε φῦλον ὀρνίθων ἀμφιβαλὼν ἄγει  
 345 καὶ θηρῶν ἀγρίων ἔθνη πόντου τ' εἰναλίαν φύσιν  
 σπείραισι δικτυοκλώστοις  
 περιφραδῆς ἀνὴρ·  
 κρατεῖ δὲ μηχαναῖς ἀγραύλου  
 350 θηρὸς ὀρεσσιβάτα, λασιαύχενά θ'  
 ἵππον ὑπάξεται ἀμφίλοφον ζυγὸν  
 οὐρειὸν τ' ἀκμήτα ταῦρον.

Στροφή β΄.

καὶ φθέγμα καὶ ἀνεμόεν  
 355 φρόνημα καὶ ἀστυνόμους ὀργὰς ἐδιδάξατο καὶ δυσαύλων  
 πάγων ὑπαίθρεια καὶ δύσομβρα φεύγειν βέλη,  
 παντοπόρος· ἄπορος ἐπ' οὐδὲν ἔρχεται  
 361 τὸ μέλλον· Ἄϊδα μόνον φεῦξιν οὐκ ἐπάξεται·  
 νόσων δ' ἀμηχάνων φυγὰς ξυμπέφρασται.

Ἀντιστροφή β΄.

365 σοφόν τι τὸ μηχανόεν  
 τέχνας ὑπὲρ ἐλπίδ' ἔχων τοτὲ μὲν κακόν, ἄλλοτ' ἐπ'  
 ἐσθλὸν ἔρπει·  
 νόμους παρείρων χθονὸς θεῶν τ' ἔνορκον δίκαν,  
 370 ὑψίπολις· ἄπολις, ὅτῳ τὸ μὴ καλὸν  
 ξύνεστι τόλμας χάριν. μήτ' ἐμοὶ παρέστιος  
 375 γένοιτο μήτ' ἴσον φρονῶν ὃς τάδ' ἔρδει.

ἐς δαιμόνιον τέρας ἀμφινοῶ  
 τόδε· πῶς εἰδὼς ἀντιλογήσω

ANTIGONE.

\*  
And the light-hearted race of birds, and the tribes of savage beasts, and the sea-brood of the deep, he snares in the meshes of his woven toils, he leads captive, man excellent in wit. And he masters by his arts the beast whose lair is in the wilds, who roams the hills; he tames the horse of shaggy mane, he puts the yoke upon its neck, he tames the tireless mountain bull.

And speech, and wind-swift thought, and all the moods that mould a state, hath he taught himself; and how to flee the arrows of the frost, when 'tis hard lodging under the clear sky, and the arrows of the rushing rain; yea, he hath resource for all; without resource he meets nothing that must come; only against Death shall he call for aid in vain; but from baffling maladies he hath devised escapes.

Cunning beyond fancy's dream is the fertile skill which brings him, now to evil, now to good. When he honors the laws of the land, and that justice which he hath sworn by the gods to uphold, proudly stands his city: no city hath he who, for his rashness, dwells with sin. Never may he share my hearth, never think my thoughts, who doth these things!

*Enter the Guard, on the spectators' left, leading in*

ANTIGONE.

What portent from the gods is this?—my soul is amazed. I know her—how can I deny that yon maiden is Antigone?

380 τήνδ' οὐκ εἶναι παῖδ' Ἀντιγόνην;  
 ὦ δύστηνος καὶ δυστήνου  
 πατὴρ Οἰδιπόδα, τί ποτ'; οὐ δὴ που  
 σέ γ' ἀπιστοῦσαν τοῖς βασιλείοις  
 ἀπάγουσι νόμοις  
 καὶ ἐν ἀφροσύνῃ καθελόντες;

FOURTH SCENE. GUARD. ANTIGONE. AFTERWARDS CREON  
 WITH TWO ATTENDANTS.

Ἐπεισόδιον β'.

ΦΤΑΑΞ.

ἦδ' ἔστ' ἐκείνῃ τοῦργον ἢ ἔχειρασμένη·  
 385 τήνδ' εἴλομεν θάπτουσαν. ἀλλὰ ποῦ Κρέων;

ΧΟΡΟΣ.

ὄδ' ἐκ δόμων ἄσπορος εἰς δέον περᾶ.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

τί δ' ἔστι; ποία ξίμμετρος προὔβην τύχη;

ΦΤΑΑΞ.

ἄναξ, βροτοῖσιν οὐδέν ἔστ' ἀπώμοτον·  
 ψεύδει γὰρ ἢ ὑπόνοια τὴν γνώμην· ἐπεὶ  
 390 σχολῇ ποθ' ἤξιεν δεῦρ' ἂν ἐξηύχουν ἐγὼ  
 ταῖς σαῖς ἀπειλαῖς, αἷς ἐχειμάσθην τότε·  
 ἀλλ', ἢ γὰρ ἐκτὸς καὶ παρ' ἐλπίδας χαρὰ  
 ἔοικεν ἄλλῃ μῆκος οὐδὲν ἠδονῇ,  
 ἦκω, δι' ὄρκων καίπερ ὦν ἀπώμοτος,  
 395 κόρην ἄγων τήνδ', ἢ καθευρέθῃ τάφον  
 κοσμοῦσα. κλῆρος ἐνθάδ' οὐκ ἐπάλλετο,  
 ἀλλ' ἔστ' ἐμὸν θοῦρμαιον, οὐκ ἄλλου, τόδε.

ANTIGONE.

O hapless, and child of hapless sire,—of Oedipus! What means this? Thou brought a prisoner?—thou, disloyal to the King's laws, and taken in folly?

FOURTH SCENE. GUARD. ANTIGONE. AFTERWARDS CREON  
WITH TWO ATTENDANTS.

GUARD.

Here she is, the doer of the deed:—we caught this girl burying him:—but where is Creon?

CH. Lo, he comes forth again from the house, at our need.

CR. What is it? What hath chanced, that makes my coming timely?

GU. O King, against nothing should men pledge their word; for the after-thought belies the first intent. I could have vowed that I should not soon be here again,—scared by thy threats, with which I had just been lashed: but,—since the joy that surprises and transcends our hopes is like in fulness to no other pleasure,—I have come, though 'tis in breach of my sworn oath, bringing this maid; who was taken showing grace to the dead. This time there was no casting of lots; no, this luck hath fallen to me, and to none else. And now,

# ΣΟΦΟΚΛΕΟΥΣ

καὶ νῦν, ἄναξ, τήνδ' αὐτός, ὥς θέλεις, λαβὼν  
καὶ κρῖνε καῖξέλεγχ'· ἐγὼ δ' ἐλεύθερος  
400 δίκαιός εἰμι τῶνδ' ἀπηλλάχθαι κακῶν.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

ἄγεις δὲ τήνδε τῷ τρόπῳ πόθεν λαβῶν ;

ΦΥΛΑΞ.

αὕτη τὸν ἄνδρ' ἔθαπτε· πάντ' ἐπίστασαι.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

ἦ καὶ ξυνίης καὶ λέγεις ὀρθῶς ἃ φής ;

ΦΥΛΑΞ.

ταύτην γ' ἰδὼν θάπτουσαν ὃν σὺ τὸν νεκρὸν  
405 ἀπείπας. ἄρ' ἔνδηλα καὶ σαφῇ λέγω ;

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

καὶ πῶς ὁράται καπίληπτος ἥρέθη ;

ΦΥΛΑΞ.

τοιούτον ἦν τὸ πρᾶγμ'. ὅπως γὰρ ἤκομεν,  
πρὸς σοῦ τὰ δεῖν' ἐκεῖν' ἐπηπειλημένοι,  
πᾶσαν κόνιν σήραντες ἢ κατείχε τὸν  
410 νέκυν, μυδῶν τε σῶμα γυμνώσαντες εὔ,  
καθήμεθ' ἄκρων ἐκ πάγων ὑπήνεμοι,  
ὁσμὴν ἀπ' αὐτοῦ μὴ βάλῃ πεφευγότες,  
ἐγερτὶ κινῶν ἄνδρ' ἀνὴρ ἐπιρρόθοις  
κακοῖσιν, εἴ τις τοῦδ' ἀκηδήσοι πόνου.  
415 χρόνον τάδ' ἦν τοσοῦτον, ἔστ' ἐν αἰθέρι  
μέσῳ κατέσθη λαμπρὸς ἡλίου κύκλος  
καὶ καῦμ' ἔθαλπε· καὶ τότε ἐξαίφνης χθονὸς  
τυφῶς αἰείρας σκηπτόν, οὐράνιον ἄχος,  
πίμπλησι πεδίον, πᾶσαν αἰκίζων φόβην

Sire, take her thyself, question her, examine her, as thou wilt; but I have a right to free and final quit-tance of this trouble.

CR. And thy prisoner here—how and whence hast thou taken her?

GU. She was burying the man; thou knowest all.

CR. Dost thou mean what thou sayest? Dost thou speak aright?

GU. I saw her burying the corpse that thou hadst forbidden to bury. Is that plain and clear?

CR. And how was she seen? how taken in the act?

GU. It befell on this wise. When we had come to the place,—with those dread menaces of thine upon us,—we swept away all the dust that covered the corpse, and bared the dank body well; and then sat us down on the brow of the hill, to wind-ward, heedful that the smell from him should not strike us; every man was wide awake, and kept his neighbor alert with torrents of threats, if any one should be careless of this task.

So went it, until the sun's bright orb stood in mid heaven, and the heat began to burn: and then suddenly a whirlwind lifted from the earth a storm of dust, a trouble in the sky, and filled the plain, marring all the leafage of its woods and the wide

ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΗ.

420 ὕλης πεδιάδος, ἐν δ' ἔμεστώθη μέγας  
 αἰθήρ· μύσαντες δ' εἶχομεν θείαν νόσον.  
 καὶ τοῦδ' ἀπαλλαγέντος ἐν χρόνῳ μακρῷ,  
 ἥ παῖς ὁράται, κἀνακωκύνει πικρᾶς  
 ὄρνιθος ὄξυν φθόγγον, ὥς ὅταν κενῆς  
 425 εὐνῆς νεοσσῶν ὀρφανὸν βλέψῃ λέχος·  
 οὕτω δὲ χαῦτη, ψιλὸν ὥς ὁρᾷ νέκυν,  
 γόοισιν ἐξώμωξεν, ἐκ δ' ἀρὰς κακὰς  
 ἡρᾶτο τοῖσιν τοῦργον ἐξειργασμένοις.  
 καὶ χερσὶν εὐθὺς διψίαν φέρει κόνιν,  
 430 ἔκ τ' εὐκροτήτου χαλκέας ἄρδην πρόχου  
 χοαῖσι τρισπόνδοιτι τὸν νέκυν στέφει.  
 χῆμεις ἰδόντες ἰέμεσθα, σὺν δέ νιν  
 θηρώμεθ' εὐθὺς οὐδὲν ἐκπεπληγμένην.  
 καὶ τὰς τε πρόσθεν τὰς τε νῦν ἠλέγχομεν  
 435 πράξεις· ἄπαρ' οὐδ' οὐδενὸς καθίστατο,  
 ἀλλ' ἡδέως ἔμοιγε κἀλγεινῶς ἄμα.  
 τὸ μὲν γὰρ αὐτὸν ἐκ κακῶν πεφενγῆναι  
 ἡδιστον, ἐς κακὸν δὲ τοὺς φίλους ἄγειν  
 ἀλγεινόν. ἀλλὰ πάντα ταῦθ' ἥσσω λαβεῖν  
 440 ἐμοὶ πέφυκεν τῆς ἐμῆς σωτηρίας.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

σέ δή, σέ τὴν νεύουσαν εἰς πέδον κάρα,  
 φῆς ἢ καταρνεῖ μὴ δεδρακέναι τάδε;

ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΗ.

καὶ φημὶ δρᾶσαι κοῦκ ἀπαρνοῦμαι τὸ μή.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

σὺ μὲν κομίζοις ἂν σεαυτὸν ἢ θέλεις,  
 445 ἔξω βαρείας αἰτίας ἐλεύθερον·

air was choked therewith : we closed our eyes, and bore the plague from the gods.

And when, after a long while, this storm had passed, the maid was seen ; and she cried aloud with the sharp cry of a bird in its bitterness, — even as when, within the empty nest, it sees the bed stripped of its nestlings. So she also, when she saw the corpse bare, lifted up a voice of wailing, and called down curses on the doers of that deed. And straightway she brought thirsty dust in her hands ; and from a shapely ewer of bronze, held high, with thrice-poured drink-offering she crowned the dead.

We rushed forward when we saw it, and at once closed upon our quarry, who was in no wise dismayed. Then we taxed her with her past and present doings ; and she stood not on denial of aught, — at once to my joy and to my pain. To have escaped from ills one's self is a great joy ; but 'tis painful to bring friends to ill. Howbeit, all such things are of less account to me than mine own safety.

CR. Thou — thou whose face is bent to earth — dost thou avow, or disavow, this deed ?

AN. I avow it ; I make no denial.

CR. (*To Guard.*) Thou canst betake thee whither thou wilt, free and clear of a grave charge. [*Exit Guard.*]

ΣΟΦΟΚΛΕΟΥΣ

σὺ δ' εἶπέ μοι μὴ μῆκος, ἀλλὰ συντόμως,  
ἤδησθα κηρυχθέντα μὴ πράσσειν τάδε;

ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΗ.

ἤδη. τί δ' οὐκ ἔμελλον; ἐμφανῆ γὰρ ἦν.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

καὶ δῆτ' ἐτόλμας τούσδ' ὑπερβαίνειν νόμους;

ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΗ.

450 οὐ γάρ τί μοι Ζεὺς ἦν ὁ κηρύξας τάδε,  
οὐδ' ἡ ξύνουικος τῶν κάτω θεῶν Δίκη  
τοιούσδ' ἐν ἀνθρώποισιν ὤρισεν νόμους·  
οὐδὲ σθένειν τοσοῦτον ὀρόμην τὰ σὰ  
κηρύγμαθ' ὥστ' ἄγραπτα κἀσφαλῇ θεῶν  
455 νόμιμα δύνασθαι θνητὸν ὄνθ' ὑπερδραμεῖν.  
οὐ γάρ τι νῦν γε κἀχθές, ἀλλ' αἰεί ποτε  
ζῇ ταῦτα, κοῦδεῖς οἶδεν ἐξ ὅτου 'φάνη.  
τούτων ἐγὼ οὐκ ἔμελλον, ἀνδρὸς οὐδενὸς  
φρόνημα δείσας, ἐν θεοῖσι τὴν δίκην  
460 δώσειν. θανουμένη γὰρ ἐξῆδη· τί δ' οὐ;  
κεῖ μὴ σὺ προὔκηρυξας. εἰ δὲ τοῦ χρόνου  
πρόσθεν θανοῦμαι, κέρδος αὐτ' ἐγὼ λέγω.  
ὅστις γὰρ ἐν πολλοῖσιν ὥς ἐγὼ κακοῖς  
ζῇ, πῶς ὅδ' οὐχὶ κατθανὼν κέρδος φέρει;  
465 οὕτως ἔμοιγε τοῦδε τοῦ μόρου τυχεῖν  
παρ' οὐδ' ἐν ἄλγος· ἀλλ' ἂν, εἰ τὸν ἐξ ἐμῆς  
μητρὸς θανόντ' ἄταφον ἀνεσχόμην νέκυν,  
κείνοις ἂν ἤλγουν· τοῖσδε δ' οὐκ ἀλγύνομαι.  
σοὶ δ' εἰ δοκῶ νῦν μῶρα δρῶσα τυγχάνειν,  
470 σχεδόν τι μῶρῳ μωρίαν ὀφλισκάνω.

ANTIGONE.

(To ANTIGONE.) Now, tell me thou — not in many words, but briefly — knewest thou that an edict had forbidden this?

AN. I knew it: could I help it? It was public.

CR. And thou didst indeed dare to transgress that law?

AN. Yes; for it was not Zeus that had published me that edict; not such are the laws set among men by the Justice who dwells with the gods below; nor deemed I that thy decrees were of such force, that a mortal could override the unwritten and unfailing statutes of heaven. For their life is not of to-day or yesterday, but from all time, and no man knows when they were first put forth.

Not through dread of any human pride could I answer to the gods for breaking *these*. Die I must, — I knew that well (how should I not?) — even without thy edicts. But if I am to die before my time, I count that a gain: for when any one lives, as I do, compassed about with evils, can such an one find aught but gain in death?

So for me to meet this doom is trifling grief; but if I had suffered my mother's son to lie in death an unburied corpse, that would have grieved me; for this, I am not grieved. And if my present deeds are foolish in thy sight, it may be that a foolish judge arraigns my folly.

ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΗ.

ΧΟΡΟΣ.

δηλοῖ τὸ γέννημ' ὦμόν ἐξ ὦμοῦ πατρὸς  
τῆς παιδός· εἵκειν δ' οὐκ ἐπίσταται κακοῖς.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

- ἀλλ' ἴσθι τοι τὰ σκλήρ' ἄγαν φρονήματα  
πίπτειν μάλιστα, καὶ τὸν ἐγκρατέστατον  
475 σίδηρον ὀπτὸν ἐκ πυρὸς περισκελῇ  
θραυσθέντα καὶ ῥαγέντα πλείστ' ἂν εἰσίδοις·  
σμικρῷ χαλινῷ δ' οἶδα τοὺς θυμουμένους  
ἵππους καταρτυθέντας. οὐ γὰρ ἐκπέλει  
φρονεῖν μέγ' ὅστις δοῦλός ἐστι τῶν πέλας.  
480 αὕτη δ' ὑβρίζειν μὲν τότ' ἐξηπίστατο,  
νόμους ὑπερβαίνουσα τοὺς προκειμένους·  
ὑβρις δ', ἐπεὶ δέδρακεν, ἦδε δευτέρα,  
τούτοις ἐπαυχεῖν καὶ δεδρακυῖαν γελᾶν.  
ἦ νῦν ἐγὼ μὲν οὐκ ἀνὴρ, αὕτη δ' ἀνὴρ,  
485 εἰ ταῦτ' ἀνατὶ τῇδε κείσεται κράτη.  
ἀλλ' εἴτ' ἀδελφῆς εἴθ' ὁμαιμονεστέρα  
τοῦ παντὸς ἡμῖν Ζηνὸς ἐρκείου κυρεῖ,  
αὕτη τε χῆ ξύναιμος οὐκ ἀλύξετον  
μόρου κακίστου· καὶ γὰρ οὖν κείνην ἴσον  
490 ἐπαιτιῶμαι τοῦδε βουλευῆσαι τάφου.  
καὶ νιν καλεῖτ'· ἔσω γὰρ εἶδον ἀρτίως  
λυσσῶσαν αὐτὴν οὐδ' ἐπήβολον φρενῶν.  
φιλεῖ δ' ὁ θυμὸς πρόσθεν ἡρῆσθαι κλοπεὺς  
τῶν μηδὲν ὀρθῶς ἐν σκοτῶ τεχνωμένων.  
495 μισῶ γε μέντοι χῶταν ἐν κακοῖσί τις  
ἄλους ἔπειτα τοῦτο καλλύνειν θέλη.

ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΗ.

θέλεις τι μείζον ἢ κατακτείναι μ' ἐλών;

CH. The maid shows herself passionate child of passionate sire, and knows not how to bend before troubles.

CR. Yet I would have thee know that o'er-stubborn spirits are most often humbled; 'tis the stiffest iron, baked to hardness in the fire, that thou shalt oftenest see snapped and shivered; and I have known horses that show temper brought to order by a little curb; there is no room for pride, when thou art thy neighbor's slave.—This girl was already versed in insolence when she transgressed the laws that had been set forth; and, that done, lo, a second insult,—to vaunt of this, and exult in her deed.

Now verily I am no man, she is the man, if this victory shall rest with her, and bring no penalty. No! be she sister's child, or nearer to me in blood than any that worships Zeus at the altar of our house,—she and her kinsfolk shall not avoid a doom most dire; for indeed I charge that other with a like share in the plotting of this burial.

And summon her—for I saw her e'en now within,—raving, and not mistress of her wits. So oft, before the deed, the mind stands self-convicted in its treason, when folks are plotting mischief in the dark. But verily this, too, is hateful,—when one who hath been caught in wickedness then seeks to make the crime a glory.

## ΣΟΦΟΚΛΕΟΥΣ

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

ἐγὼ μὲν οὐδέν· τοῦτ' ἔχων ἅπαντ' ἔχω.

ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΗ.

τί δῆτα μέλλεις ; ὥς ἐμοὶ τῶν σῶν λόγων  
500 ἄρεστόν οὐδέν, μηδ' ἄρεσθείη ποτέ,  
οὕτω δὲ καὶ σοὶ τᾶμ' ἀφανδάνοντ' ἔφν.  
καίτοι πόθεν κλέος γ' ἂν εὐκλεέστερον  
κατέσχον ἢ τὸν αὐτάδελφον ἐν τάφῳ  
τιθείσα ; τούτοις τοῦτο πᾶσιν ἀνδάνει  
505 λέγοιτ' ἄν, εἰ μὴ γλῶσσαν ἐγκλήροι φόβος.  
[ἀλλ' ἡ τυραννὶς πολλά τ' ἄλλ' εὐδαιμονεῖ,  
κάξεστω αὐτῇ δρᾶν λέγειν θ' ἂ βούλεται.]

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

σὺ τοῦτο μούνη τῶνδε Καδμείων ὄρας.

ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΗ.

ὀρώσι χούττοι, σοὶ δ' ὑπὶλλουσιν στόμα.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

510 σὺ δ' οὐκ ἐπαιδεῖ, τῶνδε χωρὶς εἰ φρονεῖς ;

ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΗ.

οὐδέν γὰρ αἰσχροὺν τοὺς ὁμοσπλάγχνους σέβειν.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

οὐκ οὐκ ὁμαιμος χῶ καταντίον θανών ;

ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΗ.

ὁμαιμος ἐκ μιᾶς τε καὶ ταυτοῦ πατρός.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

πῶς δῆτ' ἐκείνῳ δυσσεβῇ τιμᾶς χάριν ;

ANTIGONE.

AN. Wouldst thou do more than take and slay me?

CR. No more, indeed; having that, I have all.

AN. Why then dost thou delay? In thy discourse there is nought that pleases me,—never may there be!—and so my words must needs be unpleasing to thee. And yet, for glory—whence could I have won a nobler, than by giving burial to mine own brother? All here would own that they thought it well, were not their lips sealed by fear. But royalty, blest in so much besides, hath the power to do and say what it will.

CR. Thou differest from all these Thebans in that view.

AN. These also share it; but they curb their tongues for thee.

CR. And art thou not ashamed to act apart from them?

AN. No; there is nothing shameful in piety to a brother.

CR. Was it not a brother, too, that died in the opposite cause?

AN. Brother by the same mother and the same sire.

CR. Why, then, dost thou render a grace that is impious in his sight?

ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΗ.

ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΗ.

515 οὐ μαρτυρήσει ταῦθ' ὁ καπθανὼν νέκυσ.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

εἴ τοί σφε τιμᾶς ἐξ ἴσου τῷ δυσσεβεῖ.

ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΗ.

οὐ γάρ τι δοῦλος, ἀλλ' ἀδελφὸς ὦλετο.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

πορθῶν δὲ τήνδε γῆν· ὁ δ' ἀντιστὰς ὕπερ.

ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΗ.

ὅμως· ὃ γ' Ἰδίδης τοὺς νόμους ἴσους ποθεῖ.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

520 ἀλλ' οὐχ ὁ χρηστὸς τῷ κακῷ λαχεῖν ἴσος.

ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΗ.

τίς οἶδεν εἰ κάτωθεν εὐαγῇ τάδε;

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

οὔτοι ποθ' οὐχθρός, οὐδ' ὅταν θάνῃ, φίλος.

ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΗ.

οὔτοι συνέχθειν, ἀλλὰ συμφιλεῖν ἔφυν.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

κάτω νυν ἔλθοῦσ', εἰ φιλητέον, φίλει  
525 κείνους· ἐμοῦ δὲ ζῶντος οὐκ ἄρξει γυνή.

FIFTH SCENE. CREON. ANTIGONE. ISMENE. TWO ATTENDANTS.

ΧΟΡΟΣ.

καὶ μὴν πρὸ πυλῶν ἦδ' Ἰσμήνη,  
φιλάδελφα κάτω δάκρυ λειβομένη·  
νεφέλη δ' ὀφρύων ὕπερ αἱματόεν

ANTIGONE.

AN. The dead man will not say that he so deems it.

CR. Yea, if thou makest him but equal in honor with the wicked.

AN. It was his brother, not his slave, that perished.

CR. Wasting this land; while *he* fell as its champion.

AN. Nevertheless, Hades desires these rites.

CR. But the good desires not a like portion with the evil.

AN. Who knows but this seems blameless in the world below?

CR. A foe is never a friend—not even in death.

AN. 'Tis not my nature to join in hating, but in loving.

CR. Pass, then, to the world of the dead, and, if thou must needs love, love them. While I live no woman shall rule me.

FIFTH SCENE. CREON. ANTIGONE. ISMENE. TWO ATTENDANTS.

*Enter ISMENE from the house, led in by two attendants.*

CH. Lo, yonder Ismene comes forth, shedding such tears as fond sisters weep; a cloud upon her

530 ῥέθος αἰσχύνει,  
τέγγουσ' εὐῶπα παρειάν.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

σὺ δ', ἡ κατ' οἴκους ὥς ἔχιδν' ὑφειμένη,  
λήθουσά μ' ἐξέπινες, οὐδ' ἐμάνθανον  
τρέφων δύ' ἄτα κάπαναστάσεις θρόνων,  
φέρ', εἰπέ δή μοι, καὶ σὺ τοῦδε τοῦ τάφου  
535 φήσεις μετασχεῖν, ἡ ἕξομεῖ τὸ μὴ εἰδέναι ;

ΙΣΜΗΝΗ.

δέδρακα τοῦργον, εἴπερ ἦδ' ὁμορροθεῖ,  
καὶ ξυμμετίσχω καὶ φέρω τῆς αἰτίας.

ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΗ.

ἀλλ' οὐκ ἐάσει τοῦτό γ' ἡ δίκη σ', ἐπεὶ  
οὐτ' ἠθέλησας, οὐτ' ἐγὼ 'κωνωσάμην.

ΙΣΜΗΝΗ.

540 ἀλλ' ἐν κακοῖς τοῖς σοῖσιν οὐκ αἰσχύνομαι  
ξύμπλουν ἐμαυτὴν τοῦ πάθους ποιουμένη.

ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΗ.

ὦν τοῦργον, Ἄιδης χοὶ κάτω ξυνίστορες·  
λόγοις δ' ἐγὼ φιλοῦσαν οὐ στέργω φίλην.

ΙΣΜΗΝΗ.

μήτοι, κασιγνήτη, μ' ἀτιμάσης τὸ μὴ οὐ  
545 θανεῖν τε σὺν σοὶ τὸν θανόντα θ' ἀγνίσαι.

ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΗ.

μή μοι θάνης σὺ κοινά, μηδ' ἂ μὴ 'θιγες  
ποιοῦ σεαυτῆς· ἀρκέσω θνήσκουσ' ἐγώ.

ANTIGONE.

brow casts its shadow over her darkly-flushing face,  
and breaks in rain on her fair cheek.

CR. And thou, who, lurking like a viper in my house, wast secretly draining my life-blood, while I knew not that I was nurturing two pests, to rise against my throne—come, tell me now, wilt thou also confess thy part in this burial, or wilt thou forswear all knowledge of it?

IS. I have done the deed,—if she allows my claim,—and share the burden of the charge.

AN. Nay, justice will not suffer thee to do that: thou didst not consent to the deed, nor did I give thee part in it.

IS. But, now that ills beset thee, I am not ashamed to sail the sea of trouble at thy side.

AN. Whose was the deed, Hades and the dead are witnesses: a friend in words is not the friend that I love.

IS. Nay, sister, reject me not, but let me die with thee, and duly honor the dead.

AN. Share not thou my death, nor claim deeds to which thou hast not put thy hand: my death will suffice.

IS. And what life is dear to me, bereft of thee?

ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΗ.

ΙΣΜΗΝΗ.

καὶ τίς βίος μοι σοῦ λελειμμένη φίλος;

ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΗ.

Κρέοντ' ἐρώτα· τοῦδε γὰρ σὺ κηδεμών.

ΙΣΜΗΝΗ.

550 τί ταῦτ' ἀνιάς μ' οὐδὲν ὠφελουμένη;

ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΗ.

ἀλγοῦσα μὲν δῆτ', εἰ γέλωτ' ἐν σοὶ γελῶ.

ΙΣΜΗΝΗ.

τί δῆτ' ἂν ἀλλὰ νῦν σ' ἔτ' ὠφελοῖμ' ἐγώ;

ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΗ.

σῶσον σεαυτήν· οὐ φθονῶ σ' ὑπεκφυγεῖν.

ΙΣΜΗΝΗ.

οἴμοι τάλαινα, κάμπλάκω τοῦ σοῦ μόρου;

ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΗ.

555 σὺ μὲν γὰρ εἴλου ζῆν, ἐγὼ δὲ κατθανεῖν.

ΙΣΜΗΝΗ.

ἀλλ' οὐκ ἐπ' ἀρρήτοις γε τοῖς ἐμοῖς λόγοις.

ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΗ.

καλῶς σὺ μὲν σοί, τοῖς δ' ἐγὼ ὀδόκουν φρονεῖν,

ΙΣΜΗΝΗ.

καὶ μὴν ἴση νῶν ἐστὶν ἡ ἕξαμαρτία.

ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΗ.

θάρσει· σὺ μὲν ζῆς, ἡ δ' ἐμὴ ψυχὴ πάλαι  
560 τέθνηκεν, ὥστε τοῖς θανούσιν ὠφελεῖν.

ANTIGONE.

AN. Ask Creon ; all thy care is for him.

IS. Why vex me thus, when it avails thee  
nought ?

AN. Indeed, if I mock, 'tis with pain that I  
mock thee.

IS. Tell me, — how can I serve thee, even now ?

AN. Save thyself : I grudge not thy escape.

IS. Ah, woe is me ! And shall I have no share  
in thy fate ?

AN. Thy choice was to live ; mine, to die.

IS. At least thy choice was not made without  
my protest.

AN. One world approved thy wisdom ; another,  
mine..

IS. Howbeit, the offence is the same for both  
of us.

AN. Be of good cheer ; thou livest ; but my life  
hath long been given to death, that so I might serve  
the dead.

CR. Lo, one of these maidens hath newly shown  
herself foolish, as the other hath been since her life  
began.

ΣΟΦΟΚΛΕΟΥΣ

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

τὼ παῖδέ φημι τώδε τὴν μὲν ἀρτίως  
ἄνουν πεφάνθαι, τὴν δ' ἀφ' οὗ τὰ πρῶτ' ἔφυ.

ΙΣΜΗΝΗ.

οὐ γὰρ ποτ', ὦναξ, οὐδ' ὅς ἂν βλάβστη μένει  
νοῦς τοῖς κακῶς πράσσουσιν, ἀλλ' ἐξίσταται.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

565 σοὶ γοῦν, ὅθ' εἴλου σὺν κακοῖς πράσσειν κακά.

ΙΣΜΗΝΗ.

τί γὰρ μόνη μοι τῆσδ' ἄτερ βιώσιμον;

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

ἀλλ' ἦδε μέντοι μὴ λέγ'· οὐ γὰρ ἔστ' ἔτι.

ΙΣΜΗΝΗ.

ἀλλὰ κτενεῖς νυμφεῖα τοῦ σαυτοῦ τέκνου;

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

ἀρώσιμοι γὰρ χατέρων εἰσὶν γυῖα.

ΙΣΜΗΝΗ.

570 οὐχ ὥς γ' ἐκείνῳ τῇδέ τ' ἦν ἡρμοσμένα.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

κακὰς ἐγὼ γυναῖκας υἱέσι στυγῶ.

ΙΣΜΗΝΗ.

ὦ φίλταθ' Αἴμων, ὥς σ' ἀτιμάζει πατήρ.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

ἄγαν γε λυπεῖς καὶ σὺ καὶ τὸ σὸν λέχος.

ΧΟΡΟΣ.

, ἦ γὰρ στερήσεις τῇσδε τὸν σαυτοῦ γόνον;

ANTIGONE.

IS. Yea, O King, such reason as nature may have given abides not with the unfortunate, but goes astray.

CR. Thine did, when thou chocest vile deeds with the vile.

IS. What life could I endure, without her presence?

CR. Nay, speak not of her 'presence'; she lives no more.

IS. But wilt thou slay the betrothed of thine own son?

CR. Nay, there are other fields for him to plough.

IS. But there can never be such love as bound him to her.

CR. I like not an evil wife for my son.

AN. Haemon, beloved! How thy father wrongs thee!

CR. Enough, enough of thee and of thy marriage!

CH. Wilt thou indeed rob thy son of this maiden?

CR. 'Tis Death that shall stay these bridals for me.

CH. 'Tis determined, it seems, that she shall die.

# ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΗ.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

575 Ἄιδης ὁ παύσων τούσδε τοὺς γάμους ἐμοί.

ΧΟΡΟΣ.

δεδογμέν'. ὥς ἔοικε, τήνδε κατθανεῖν.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

καὶ σοί γε κάμοί. μὴ τριβὰς ἔτ', ἀλλὰ νιν  
κομίζετ' εἴσω, δμῶες· ἐκ δὲ τοῦδε χρὴ  
γυναῖκας εἶναι τάσδε μῆδ' ἀνειμένας.  
580 φεύγουσι γάρ τοι χοῖ θρασεῖς, ὅταν πέλας  
ἦδῃ τὸν Ἄιδην εἰσορώσι τοῦ βίου.

Στάσιμον β'.

ΧΟΡΟΣ.

Στροφή α.

εὐδαίμονες οἷσι κακῶν ἄγευστος αἰών.  
οἷς γὰρ ἂν σεισθῇ θεόθεν δόμος, ἄτας  
585 οὐδὲν ἐλλείπει γενεᾶς ἐπὶ πλήθος ἔρπον·  
ὅμοιον ὥστε ποντίαις οἷδμα δυσπνόοις ὅταν  
Θρήσσαισιν ἔρεβος ὑφάλον ἐπιδράμη πνοαῖς,  
590 κυλίνδει βυσσόθεν κελαινὰν θίνα, καὶ  
δυσάνεμον, στόνῳ βρέμουσι δ' ἀντιπλήγες ἀκταί.

Ἀντιστροφή α.

ἀρχαῖα τὰ λαβδακιδᾶν οἴκων ὀρώμαι  
595 πῆματα φθιτῶν ἐπὶ πῆμασι πίπτοντ',  
οὐδ' ἀπαλλάσσει γενεὰν γένος, ἀλλ' ἐρείπει  
θεῶν τις, οὐδ' ἔχει λύσιν. ἦν γὰρ ἐσχάτας ὑπὲρ  
600 ρίζας ἐτέτατο φάος ἐν Οἰδίπου δόμοις,

ANTIGONE.

CR. Determined, yes, for thee and for me.—(*To the two Attendants.*) No more delay—servants, take them within! Henceforth they must be women, and not range at large; for verily even the bold seek to fly when they see Death now closing on their life.

*Exeunt Attendants, guarding ANTIGONE and ISMENE.—CREON remains.*

CH. Blest are they whose days have not tasted of evil. For when a house hath once been shaken from heaven, there the curse fails nevermore, passing from life to life of the race; even as, when the surge is driven over the darkness of the deep by the fierce breath of Thracian sea-winds, it rolls up the black sand from the depths, and there is a sullen roar from wind-vexed headlands that front the blows of the storm.

I see that from olden time the sorrows in the house of the Labdacidae are heaped upon the sorrows of the dead; and generation is not freed by generation, but some god strikes them down, and the race hath no deliverance.

For now that hope of which the light had been spread above the last root of the house of Oedipus,

κατ' αὖ νιν φοινία θεῶν τῶν νερτέρων  
ἀμᾶ κοπὶς λόγου τ' ἄνοια καὶ φρενῶν ἐρινύς.

## Στροφή β'.

605    τεάν, Ζεῦ, δύνασιν τίς ἀνδρῶν ὑπερβασία κατάσχοι,  
τὰν οὐθ' ὕπνος αἰρεῖ ποθ' ὁ πανταγρέυς οὔτ'  
ἀκάματοι θέοντες μῆνες, ἀγῆρως δὲ χρόνῳ  
610    δυνάστας κατέχεις Ὀλύμπου μαρμαρόεσσαν αἴγλαν·  
τό τ' ἔπειτα καὶ τὸ μέλλον  
καὶ τὸ πρὶν ἐπαρκέσει  
νόμος ὅδ'· οὐδὲν ἔρπει  
θνατῶν βιότῳ πλημμελὲς ἱκτὸς αἶτας.

## Ἀντιστροφή β'.

615    ἅ γὰρ δὴ πολύπλαγκτος ἐλπὶς πολλοῖς μὲν ὄνησις  
ἀνδρῶν,  
πολλοῖς δ' ἀπάτα κουφονόων ἐρώτων·  
εἰδότει δ' οὐδὲν ἔρπει, πρὶν πυρὶ θερμῷ πόδα τις  
620    προσαύσῃ. σοφία γὰρ ἔκ του κλεινὸν ἔπος πέφανται·  
τὸ κακὸν δοκεῖν ποτ' ἐσθλὸν  
τῷδ' ἔμμεν ὅτῳ φρένας  
θεὸς ἄγει πρὸς αἶταν.  
625    πράσσει δ' ὀλίγιστον χρόνον ἱκτὸς αἶτας.

ὅδε μὴν Αἴμων, παίδων τῶν σῶν  
νέατον γέννημ'· αἶρ' ἀχνύμενος  
τῆς μελλογάμου τάλιδος ἦκει  
μόρον Ἀντιγόνης,  
630    ἀπάτας λεχέων ὑπεραλγῶν;

—that hope in turn is brought low—by the blood-stained dust due to the gods infernal, and by folly in speech, and frenzy at the heart.

Thy power, O Zeus, what human trespass can limit? That power which neither Sleep, the all-ensnaring, nor the untiring months of the gods can master; but thou, a ruler to whom time brings not old age, dwellest in the dazzling splendor of Olympus.

And through the future, near and far, as through the past, shall this law hold good: Nothing that is vast enters into the life of mortals without a curse.

For that hope whose wanderings are so wide is to many men a comfort, but to many a false lure of giddy desires; and the disappointment comes on one who knoweth not till he burn his foot against the hot fire.

For with wisdom hath some one given forth the famous saying, that evil seems good, soon or late, to him whose mind the god draws to mischief; and but for the briefest space doth he fare free of woe.

But lo, Haemon, the last of thy sons;—comes he grieving for the doom of his promised bride, Antigone, and bitter for the baffled hope of his marriage?

# ANTIGONH.

SIXTH SCENE. CREON. TWO SERVANTS. HAEMON.

Ἐπεισόδιον γ'.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

τάχ' εἰσόμεσθα μάντεων ὑπέρτερον.  
ὦ παῖ, τελείαν ψῆφον ἄρα μὴ κλύων  
τῆς μελλονύμφου πατρὶ θυμαίνων πάρει;  
ἦ σοὶ μὲν ἡμεῖς πανταχῇ δρῶντες φίλοι;

ΑΙΜΩΝ.

635 πάτερ, σός εἰμι, καὶ σύ μοι γνώμας ἔχων  
χρηστὰς ἀπορθοῖς, αἷς ἔγωγ' ἐφέψομαι.  
ἔμοι γὰρ οὐδεὶς ἀξίως ἔσται γάμος  
μείζων φέρεσθαι σοῦ καλῶς ἡγουμένου.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

οὕτω γάρ, ὦ παῖ, χρὴ διὰ στέρνων ἔχειν,  
640 γνώμης πατρώας πάντ' ὀπισθεν ἐστάναι.  
τούτου γὰρ οὐνεκ' ἄνδρες εὗχονται γονὰς  
κατηκόους φύσαντες ἐν δόμοις ἔχειν,  
ὥς καὶ τὸν ἐχθρὸν ἀνταμύνωνται κακοῖς,  
καὶ τὸν φίλον τιμῶσιν ἐξ ἴσου πατρί.  
645 ὅστις δ' ἀνωφέλητα φιτεύει τέκνα,  
τί τόνδ' ἂν εἴποις ἄλλο πλὴν αὐτῷ πόνους  
φύσαι, πολὺν δὲ τοῖσιν ἐχθροῖσιν γέλων;  
μὴ νῦν ποτ', ὦ παῖ, τὰς φρένας γ' ὑφ' ἡδονῆς  
γυναικὸς οὐνεκ' ἐκβάλης, εἰδὼς ὅτι  
650 ψυχρὸν παραγκάλισμα τοῦτο γίγνεται,  
γυνὴ κακὴ ξύνευνος ἐν δόμοις. τί γὰρ  
γένοιτ' ἂν ἔλκος μείζον ἢ φίλος κακός;  
ἀλλὰ πτύσας ὡσεὶ τε δυσμενῇ μέθες

ANTIGONE.

SIXTH SCENE. CREON. TWO SERVANTS. HAEMON.

*Enter* HAEMON.

CR. We shall know soon, better than seers could tell us. — My son, hearing the fixed doom of thy betrothed, art thou come in rage against thy father? Or have I thy good will, act how I may?

HAE. Father, I am thine; and thou, in thy wisdom, tracest for me rules which I shall follow. No marriage shall be deemed by me a greater gain than thy good guidance.

CR. Yea, this, my son, should be thy heart's fixed law, — in all things to obey thy father's will. 'Tis for this that men pray to see dutiful children grow up around them in their homes, — that such may requite their father's foe with evil, and honor, as their father doth, his friend. But he who begets unprofitable children — what shall we say that he hath sown, but troubles for himself, and much triumph for his foes? Then do not thou, my son, at pleasure's beck, dethrone thy reason for a woman's sake; knowing that this is a joy that soon grows cold in clasping arms, — an evil woman to share thy bed and thy home. For what wound could strike deeper than a false friend? Nay, with loathing, and as if she were thine enemy, let this girl go to find a husband in the house of Hades. For since I have taken her, alone of all the city, in open

τὴν παῖδ' ἐν ᾿Αιδον τήνδε νυμφεύειν τιναί.  
 655 ἐπεὶ γὰρ αὐτὴν εἶλον ἐμφανῶς ἐγὼ  
 πόλεως ἀπιστήσασαν ἐκ πάσης μόνην,  
 ψευδῇ γ' ἐμαυτὸν οὐ καταστήσω πόλει,  
 ἀλλὰ κτενῶ. πρὸς ταῦτ' ἐφυμνείτω Δία  
 ξύναιμον· εἰ γὰρ δὴ τά γ' ἐγγενῇ φύσει  
 660 ἄκοσμα θρέψω, κάρτα τοὺς ἕξω γένους·  
 ἐν τοῖς γὰρ οἰκείοισιν ὅστις ἔστ' ἀνὴρ  
 χρηστός, φανεῖται καὶ πόλει δίκαιος ὢν.  
 ὅστις δ' ὑπερβὰς ἢ νόμους βιάζεται  
 ἢ τοῦπιτάσσειν τοῖς κρατύνουσιν νοεῖ,  
 665 οὐκ ἔστ' ἐπαίνου τοῦτον ἐξ ἐμοῦ τυχεῖν.  
 ἀλλ' ὅν πόλις στήσειε, τοῦδε χρὴ κλύειν  
 καὶ σμικρὰ καὶ δίκαια καὶ τάναντία.  
 καὶ τοῦτον ἂν τὸν ἄνδρα θαρσοίην ἐγὼ  
 καλῶς μὲν ἄρχειν, εὖ δ' ἂν ἄρχεσθαι θέλειν,  
 670 δορός τ' ἂν ἐν χειμῶνι προστεταγμένον  
 μένειν δίκαιον καγαθὸν παραστάτην.  
 ἀναρχίας δὲ μείζον οὐκ ἔστιν κακόν·  
 αὕτη πόλεις τ' ὄλλυσιν, ἣδ' ἀναστάτους  
 οἴκους τίθησιν, ἥδε συμμάχου δορός  
 675 τροπὰς καταρρήγνυνσι. τῶν δ' ὀρθουμένων  
 σῶζει τὰ πολλὰ σώμαθ' ἢ πειθαρχία.  
 οὕτως ἀμυντέ' ἐστὶ τοῖς κοσμουμένοις,  
 κοῦτοι γυναικὸς οὐδαμῶς ἥσσητέα.  
 κρεῖσσον γάρ, εἴπερ δεῖ, πρὸς ἀνδρὸς ἐκπεσεῖν,  
 680 κοῦκ ἂν γυναικῶν ἥσσονες καλοίμεθ' ἂν.

ΧΟΡΟΣ.

ἡμῖν μέν, εἰ μὴ τῷ χρόνῳ κεκλόμεθα,  
 λέγειν φρονούντως ὦν λέγεις δοκεῖς πέρι.

disobedience, I will not make myself a liar to my people — I will slay her.

So let her appeal as she will to the majesty of kindred blood. If I am to nurture mine own kindred in naughtiness, needs must I bear with it in aliens. He who does his duty in his own household will be found righteous in the State also. But if any one transgresses, and does violence to the laws, or thinks to dictate to his rulers, such an one can win no praise from me. No, whomsoever the city may appoint, that man must be obeyed, in little things and great, in just things and unjust; and I should feel sure that one who thus obeys would be a good ruler no less than a good subject, and in the storm of spears would stand his ground where he was set, loyal and dauntless at his comrade's side.

But disobedience is the worst of evils. This it is that ruins cities; this makes homes desolate; by this, the ranks of allies are broken into headlong rout: but, of the lives whose course is fair, the greater part owes safety to obedience. Therefore we must support the cause of order, and in no wise suffer a woman to worst us. Better to fall from power, if we must, by a man's hand; then we should not be called weaker than a woman.

# ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΗ.

## ΑΙΜΩΝ.

- πάτερ, θεοὶ φύουσιν ἀνθρώποις φρένας,  
 πάντων ὅσ' ἔστι κτημάτων ὑπέρτατον.  
 685 ἐγὼ δ' ὅπως σὺ μὴ λέγεις ὀρθῶς τάδε  
 οὐτ' ἂν δυναίμην μήτ' ἐπισταίμην λέγειν·  
 γένοιτο μέντ' αὖ χιτῶν καλῶς ἔχον.  
 σοὶ δ' οὖν πέφυκα πάντα προσκοπεῖν ὅσα  
 λέγει τις ἢ πράσσει τις ἢ ψέγειν ἔχει.  
 690 τὸ γὰρ σὸν ὄμμα δεινὸν ἀνδρὶ δημότῃ  
 λόγοις τοιούτοις, οἷς σὺ μὴ τέρψει κλύων·  
 ἐμοὶ δ' ἀκούειν ἔσθ' ὑπὸ σκότου τάδε,  
 τὴν παῖδα ταύτην οἷ' ὀδύρεται πόλις,  
 πασῶν γυναικῶν ὡς ἀναξιώτατῃ  
 695 κακίστ' ἀπ' ἔργων εὐκλεεστάτων φθίνει,  
 ἥ τις τὸν αὐτῆς ἀντάδελφον ἐν φοναῖς  
 πεπτῶτ' ἄθραπτον μήθ' ὑπ' ὠμηστῶν κυνῶν  
 εἶασ' ὀλέσθαι μήθ' ὑπ' οἰωνῶν τινος·  
 οὐχ ἦδε χρυσῆς ἀξία τιμῆς λαχεῖν;  
 700 τοιάδ' ἐρεμνὴ σὺγ' ἐπέρχεται φάτις.  
 ἐμοὶ δὲ σοῦ πράσσοντος εὐτυχῶς, πάτερ,  
 οὐκ ἔστιν οὐδὲν κτῆμα τιμιώτερον.  
 τί γὰρ πατρὸς θάλλοντος εὐκλείας τέκνοις  
 ἄγαλμα μεῖζον, ἢ τί πρὸς παίδων πατρί;  
 705 μὴ νῦν ἐν ἥθος μῦνον ἐν σαυτῷ φόρει,  
 ὡς φῆς σύ, κοῦδὲν ἄλλο, τοῦτ' ὀρθῶς ἔχειν.  
 ὅστις γὰρ αὐτὸς ἢ φρονεῖν μόνος δοκεῖ,  
 ἢ γλῶσσαν, ἣν οὐκ ἄλλος, ἢ ψυχὴν ἔχειν,  
 οὔτοι διαπτυχθέντες ὠφθησαν κενοί.  
 710 ἀλλ' ἄνδρα, κεῖ τις ἢ σοφός, τὸ μαυθάνειν  
 πόλλ' αἰσχρὸν οὐδὲν καὶ τὸ μὴ τείνειν ἄγαν.  
 ὁρᾷς παρὰ ρείθροισι χειμάρροις ὅσα

CH. To us, unless our years have stolen our wit thou seemest to say wisely what thou sayest.

HÆ. Father, the gods implant reason in men, the highest of all things that we call our own. Not mine the skill—far from me be the quest!—to say wherein thou speakest not aright; and yet another man, too, might have some useful thought. At least, it is my natural office to watch, on thy behalf, all that men say, or do, or find to blame. For the dread of thy frown forbids the citizen to speak such words as would offend thine ear; but I can hear these murmurs in the dark, these moanings of the city for this maiden; ‘no woman,’ they say, ‘ever merited her doom less,—none ever was to die so shamefully for deeds so glorious as hers; who, when her own brother had fallen in bloody strife, would not leave him unburied, to be devoured by carrion dogs, or by any bird:—deserves not *she* the meed of golden honor?’

Such is the darkling rumor that spreads in secret. For me, my father, no treasure is so precious as thy welfare. What, indeed, is a nobler ornament for children than a prospering sire’s fair fame, or for sire than son’s? Wear not, then, one mood only in thyself; think not that thy word, and thine alone, must be right. For if any man thinks that he alone is wise,—that in speech, or in mind, he hath no peer,—such a soul, when laid open, is ever found empty.

δένδρων ὑπείκει, κλῶνας ὥς ἐκσφύζεται·  
 τὰ δ' ἀντιτείνοντ' αὐτόπρεμν' ἀπόλλυται.  
 715 αὐτως δὲ ναὸς ὅστις ἐγκρατῇ πόδα  
 τείνας ὑπείκει μηδέν, ὑπτίους κάτω  
 στρέψας τὸ λοιπὸν σέλμασιν ναυτίλλεται.  
 ἀλλ' εἶκε θυμοῦ καὶ μετάστασιν δίδου.  
 γνώμη γὰρ εἴ τις κἂπ' ἐμοῦ νεωτέρου  
 720 πρόσεστι, φήμ' ἔγωγε πρεσβεύειν πολὺ,  
 φῦναι τὸν ἄνδρα πάντ' ἐπιστήμης πλέων·  
 εἰ δ' οὔν, φιλεῖ γὰρ τοῦτο μὴ ταύτῃ ῥέπειν,  
 καὶ τῶν λεγόντων εἴ καλὸν τὸ μανθάνειν.

ΧΟΡΟΣ.

ἄναξ, σέ τ' εἰκός, εἴ τι καίριον λέγει,  
 725 μαθεῖν, σέ τ' αὖ τοῦδ'· εἴ γὰρ εἴρηται διπλῇ.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

οἱ τηλικοῖδε καὶ διδαξόμεσθα δὴ  
 φρονεῖν ὑπ' ἀνδρὸς τηλικούδε τὴν φύσιν;

ΑΙΜΩΝ.

μηδέν τὸ μὴ δίκαιον· εἰ δ' ἐγὼ νέος,  
 οὐ τὸν χρόνον χρὴ μᾶλλον ἢ τᾶργα σκοπεῖν.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

730 ἔργον γάρ ἐστι τοὺς ἀκοσμοῦντας σέβειν;

ΑΙΜΩΝ.

οὐδ' ἂν κελεύσαιμ' εὐσεβεῖν εἰς τοὺς κακοὺς.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

οὐχ ἦδε γὰρ τοιαῦδ' ἐπείληπται νόσφ;

ΑΙΜΩΝ.

οὐ φησι Θήβης τῇσδ' ὁμόπολις λεώς.

No, though a man be wise, 'tis no shame for him to learn many things, and to bend in season. Seest thou, beside the wintry torrent's course, how the trees that yield to it save every twig, while the stiff-necked perish root and branch? And even thus he who keeps the sheet of his sail taut, and never slackens it, upsets his boat and finishes his voyage with keel uppermost.

Nay, forego thy wrath; permit thyself to change. For if I, a younger man, may offer my thought, it were far best, I ween, that men should be all-wise by nature; but, otherwise—and oft the scale inclines not so—'tis good also to learn from those who speak aright.

CH. Sire, 'tis meet that thou shouldest profit by his words, if he speaks aught in season, and thou, Haemon, by thy father's; for on both parts there hath been wise speech.

CR. Men of my age—are we indeed to be schooled, then, by men of his?

HÆ. In nothing that is not right; but if I am young, thou shouldest look to my merits not to my years.

CR. Is it a merit to honor the unruly?

ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΗ.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

πόλις γὰρ ἡμῖν ἀμὲ χρή τάσσειν ἐρεῖ;

ΑΙΜΩΝ.

735 ὁρᾷς τόδ' ὥς εἴρηκας ὥς ἄγαν νέος;

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

ἄλλω γὰρ ἢ ἴμοι χρή με τῇσδ' ἄρχειν χθονός;

ΑΙΜΩΝ.

πόλις γὰρ οὐκ ἔσθ' ἥτις ἀνδρός ἔσθ' ἑνός.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

οὐ τοῦ κρατοῦντος ἢ πόλις νομίζεται;

ΑΙΜΩΝ.

καλῶς ἐρήμης γ' ἂν σὺ γῆς ἄρχοις μόνος.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

740 ὅδ', ὥς ἔοικε, τῇ γυναικὶ συμμαχεῖ.

ΑΙΜΩΝ.

εἴπερ γυνὴ σύ· σοῦ γὰρ οὔν προκήδομαι.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

ὦ παγκάκιστε, διὰ δίκης ἰὼν πατρί.

ΑΙΜΩΝ.

οὐ γὰρ δίκαιά σ' ἐξαμαρτάνονθ' ὀρώ.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

ἁμαρτάνω γὰρ τὰς ἐμὰς ἀρχὰς σέβων;

ΑΙΜΩΝ.

745 οὐ γὰρ σέβεις, τιμάς γε τὰς θεῶν πατῶν.

ANTIGONE.

HÆ. I could wish no one to show respect for evil-doers.

CR. Then is not she tainted with that malady?

HÆ. Our Theban folk, with one voice, denies it.

CR. Shall Thebes prescribe to me how I must rule?

HÆ. See, there thou hast spoken like a youth indeed.

CR. Am I to rule this land by other judgment than mine own?

HÆ. That is no city, which belongs to one man.

CR. Is not the city held to be the ruler's?

HÆ. Thou wouldst make a good monarch of a desert.

CR. This boy, it seems, is the woman's champion.

HÆ. If thou art a woman; indeed, my care is for thee.

CR. Shameless, at open feud with thy father!

HÆ. Nay, I see thee offending against justice.

CR. Do I offend, when I respect mine own prerogatives?

ΣΟΦΟΚΛΕΟΥΣ

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

ὦ μιαρὸν ἦθος καὶ γυναικὸς ὕστερον.

ΑΙΜΩΝ.

οὐ τᾶν ἔλοις ἦσσω γε τῶν αἰσχυρῶν ἐμέ.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

ὁ γοῦν λόγος σοι πᾶς ὑπὲρ κείνης ὅδε.

ΑΙΜΩΝ.

καὶ σοῦ γε κάμου καὶ θεῶν τῶν νερτέρων.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

750 ταύτην πῖτ' οὐκ ἔσθ' ὥς ἔτι ζῶσαν γαμεῖς.

ΑΙΜΩΝ.

ἦδ' οὖν θανεῖται καὶ θανούσ' ὀλεῖ τινα.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

ἦ κάπαπειλῶν ὧδ' ἐπεξέρχει θρασύς ;

ΑΙΜΩΝ.

τίς δ' ἔστ' ἀπειλὴ πρὸς κενὰς γνώμας λέγειν ;

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

κλαίων φρενώσεις, ὦν φρενῶν αὐτὸς κενός.

ΑΙΜΩΝ.

757 βούλει λέγειν τι καὶ λέγων μηδὲν κλύειν.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

756 γυναικὸς ὦν δούλευμα, μὴ κώτιλλέ με.

ΑΙΜΩΝ.

755 εἰ μὴ πατὴρ ἦσθ', εἶπον ἄν σ' οὐκ εἴ φρονεῖν.

HÆ. Thou dost not respect them, when thou tramplest on the gods' honors.

CR. O dastard nature, yielding place to a woman!

HÆ. Thou wilt never find me yield to baseness.

CR. All thy words, at least, plead for that girl.

HÆ. And for thee, and for me, and for the gods below.

CR. Thou canst never marry her, on this side the grave.

HÆ. Then she must die, and in death destroy another.

CR. How! doth thy boldness run to open threats?

HÆ. What threat is it, to combat vain resolves?

CR. Thou woman's slave, use not wheedling speech with me.

HÆ. Wert thou not my father, I would have called thee unwise.

CR. Thou shalt rue thy witless teaching of wisdom.

ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΗ.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

ἄληθες ; ἀλλ' οὐ τόνδ' Ὀλυμπον, ἴσθ' ὅτι,  
χαίρων ἐπὶ ψόγοισι δειννάσεις ἐμέ.  
760 ἄγαγε τὸ μῖσος, ὥς κατ' ὄμματ' αὐτίκα  
παρόντι θνήσκη πλησία τῷ νυμφίῳ.

ΑΙΜΩΝ.

οὐ δῆτ' ἔμοιγε, τοῦτο μὴ δόξης ποτέ,  
οὐθ' ἧδ' ὀλείται πλησία, σύ τ' οὐδαμὰ  
τοῦμὸν προσόψει κρᾶτ' ἐν ὀφθαλμοῖς ὀρώων,  
765 ὥς τοῖς θέλουσι τῶν φίλων μαίνῃ ξυνών.

ΧΟΡΟΣ.

ἀνήρ, ἄναξ, βέβηκεν ἐξ ὀργῆς ταχύς·  
νοῦς δ' ἐστὶ τηλικούτος ἀλγήσας βαρύς.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

δράττω, φρονεῖτω μεῖζον ἢ κατ' ἄνδρ' ἰών·  
τὰ δ' οὔν κόρα τάδ' οὐκ ἀπαλλάξει μόρου.

ΧΟΡΟΣ.

770 ἄμφω γὰρ αὐτὰ καὶ κατακτείναι νοεῖς ;

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

οὐ τήν γε μὴ θιγοῦσαν· εἶ γὰρ οὔν λέγεις.

ΧΟΡΟΣ.

μόρφῳ δὲ ποίῳ καὶ σφε βουλεύει κτανεῖν ;

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

ἄγων ἔρημος ἔνθ' ἂν ἧ βροτῶν στίβος  
κρύψω πετρώδει ζῶσαν ἐν κατώρυχι,  
775 φορβῆς τοσοῦτον ὥς ἄγος μόνον προθείς,

HÆ. Thou wouldst speak, and then hear no reply?

CR. Sayest thou so? Now, by the heaven above us—be sure of it—thou shalt smart for taunting me in this opprobrious strain. Bring forth that hated thing, that she may die forthwith in his presence—before his eyes—at her bridegroom's side!

HÆ. No, not at my side—never think it—shall she perish; nor shalt thou ever set eyes more upon my face:—rave, then, with such friends as can endure thee.

*Exit HAEMON.*

CH. The man is gone, O King, in angry haste; a youthful mind, when stung, is fierce.

CR. Let him do, or dream more than man—good speed to him!—But he shall not save these two girls from their doom.

CH. Dost thou, indeed, purpose to slay both?

CR. Not her whose hands are pure: thou sayest well.

CH. And by what doom mean'st thou to slay the other?

CR. I will take her where the path is loneliest, and hide her, living, in a rocky vault, with so much

ὅπως μίασμα πᾶσ' ὑπεκφύγη πόλις.  
 κακεῖ τὸν Ἄιδην, ὃν μόνον σέβει θεῶν,  
 αἰτουμένη που τεύξεται τὸ μὴ θανεῖν,  
 ἧ γινώσεται γοῦν ἀλλὰ τηρικαῦθ', ὅτι  
 780 πόνος περισσός ἐστι τὰν Ἄιδου σέβειν.

## Στάσιμον γ'.

ΧΟΡΟΣ.

Στροφή.

Ἔρως ἀνίκατε μάχαν, Ἔρως δὲ ἐν κτήμασι πίπτεις,  
 ὃς ἐν μαλακαῖς παρειαῖς νεάνιδος ἐννυχεύεις·  
 785 φοιτᾷς δ' ὑπερπόντιος ἔν τ' ἀγρονόμοις αὐλαῖς,  
 καί σ' οὐτ' ἀθανάτων φύξιμος οὐδεὶς  
 790 οὐθ' ἀμερίων σέ γ' ἀνθρώπων, ὃ δ' ἔχων μέμνηνεν.

Ἀντιστροφή.

σὺ καὶ δικαίων ἀδίκους φρέγας παρασπᾷς ἐπὶ λῶβῳ,  
 σὺ καὶ τόδε νεῖκος ἀνδρῶν ξύναιμον ἔχεις ταραξᾶς·  
 795 νικᾷ δ' ἐναργῆς βλεφάρων ἱμερος εὐλέκτρον  
 νύμφας, τῶν μεγάλων πάρεδρος ἐν ἀρχαῖς  
 800 θεσμῶν· ἄμαχος γὰρ ἐμπαίζει θεὸς Ἀφροδίτα.

νῦν δ' ἤδη γὰρ καὶ τοὺς θεσμῶν  
 ἔξω φέρομαι τάδ' ὀρώων, ἴσχειν δ'  
 οὐκέτι πηγὰς δύναμαι δακρύων,  
 τὸν παγκοίτην ὅθ' ὀρῶ θάλαμον  
 τήνδ' Ἀντιγόνην ἀνύτουσαν.

ANTIGONE.

food set forth as piety prescribes, that the city may avoid a public stain. And there, praying to Hades, the only god whom she worships, perchance she will obtain release from death ; or else will learn, at last, though late, that it is lost labor to revere the dead.

Exit CREON.

CH. Love, unconquered in the fight, Love, who makest havoc of wealth, who keepest thy vigil on the soft cheek of a maiden ; thou roamest over the sea, and among the homes of dwellers in the wilds ; no immortal can escape thee, nor any among men whose life is for a day ; and he to whom thou hast come is mad.

The just themselves have their minds warped by thee to wrong, for their ruin : 'tis thou that hast stirred up this present strife of kinsmen ; victorious is the love-kindling light from the eyes of the fair bride ; it is a power enthroned in sway beside the eternal laws ; for there the goddess Aphrodite is working her unconquerable will.

But now I also am carried beyond the bounds of loyalty, and can no more keep back the streaming tears, when I see Antigone thus passing to the bridal chamber where all are laid to rest.

# ANTIGONH.

SEVENTH SCENE. CREON. ANTIGONE. TWO SERVANTS OF CREON.

Ἑπεισόδιον δ'.

ANTIGONH.

Στροφή α.

ὄρατ' ἔμ', ὦ γᾶς πατρίας πολῖται, τὰν νεάταν ὁδὸν  
 στείχουσιν, νεάτον δὲ φέγγος λεύσσουν ἀελίου,  
 810 κοῦποτ' αὐθις· ἀλλὰ μ' ὁ παγκοίτας Ἄιδας ζῶσαν ἄγει  
 τὰν Ἀχέροντος  
 ἀκτάν, οὐθ' ὕμεναίων ἔγκληρον, οὔτ' ἐπὶ νυμφείois  
 815 πώ μέ τις ὕμνος ὕμνησεν, ἀλλ' Ἀχέροντι νυμφεύσω.

ΧΟΡΟΣ.

οὐκοῦν κλεινὴ καὶ ἔπαινον ἔχουσ'  
 ἐς τόδ' ἀπέρχει κεύθος νεκύων,  
 οὔτε φθινάσω πληγείσα νόσοις  
 820 οὔτε ξιφέων ἐπίχειρα λαχοῦσ',  
 ἀλλ' αὐτόνομος ζῶσα μόνη δὴ  
 θνητῶν Ἀίδην καταβήσει.

ANTIGONH.

Ἀντιστροφή α.

ἤκουσα δὴ λυγροτάταν ὀλέσθαι τὰν Φρυγίαν ξέναν  
 825 Ταντάλου Σιπύλῳ πρὸς ἄκρῳ, τὰν κισσὸς ὡς ἀτενῆς·  
 πετραία βλάστα δάμασεν, καὶ νιν ὄμβροι τακομέναν,  
 ὡς φάτις ἀνδρῶν,  
 830 χιών τ' οὐδαμὰ λείπει, τέγγει δ' ὑπ' ὀφρύσι παγκλαύτοις  
 δειράδας· ᾧ με δαίμων ὁμοιοτάταν κατευνάζει.

ANTIGONE.

SEVENTH SCENE. CREON. ANTIGONE. TWO SERVANTS OF  
CREON.

AN. See me, citizens of my fatherland, setting forth on my last way, looking my last on the sunlight that is for me no more; no, Hades who gives sleep to all leads me living to Acheron's shore; who have had no portion in the chant that brings the bride, nor hath any song been mine for the crowning of bridals; whom the lord of the Dark Lake shall wed.

CH. Glorious, therefore, and with praise, thou departest to that deep place of the dead: wasting sickness hath not smitten thee; thou hast not found the wages of the sword; no, mistress of thine own fate, and still alive, thou shalt pass to Hades, as no other of mortal kind hath passed.

AN. I have heard in other days how dread a doom befell our Phrygian guest, the daughter of Tantalus, on the Siplyian heights; how, like clinging ivy, the growth of stone subdued her; and the rains fail not, as men tell, from her<sup>d</sup> wasting form, nor fails the snow, while beneath her weeping lids the tears bedew her bosom; and most like to hers is the fate that brings me to my rest.

CH. Yet she was a goddess, thou knowest, and born of gods; we are mortals, and of mortal race.

ΧΟΡΟΣ.

835 ἄλλὰ θεός τοι καὶ θεογεννής,  
ἡμεῖς δὲ βροτοὶ καὶ θνητογενεῖς.  
καίτοι φθιμένῳ τοῖς ἰσοθέοις  
ἔγκληρα λαχεῖν μέγ' ἀκοῦσαι.

ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΗ.

Στροφή β'.

οἴμοι γελῶμαι. τί με, πρὸς θεῶν πατρῶων,  
840 οὐκ οἰχομένην ὑβρίζεις, ἀλλ' ἐπίφαντον;  
ὦ πόλις, ὦ πόλεως πολυκτήμονες ἄνδρες·  
ἰὼ Διρκαῖαι κρήναι  
845 Θήβας τ' εὐαρμάτου ἄλσος, ἔμπας ξυμμάρτυρας ἡμῶν  
ἐπικτῶμαι,  
οἷα φίλων ἄκλαυτος, οἷοις νόμοις  
πρὸς ἔργμα τυμβόχωστον ἔρχομαι τάφου ποτανίου·  
850 ἰὼ δύστανός γ', οὐτ' ἐν βροτοῖσιν οὐτ' ἐν νεκροῖσι  
μέτοικος, οὐ ζῶσιν, οὐ θανοῦσιν.

ΧΟΡΟΣ.

Στροφή γ'.

προβᾶσ' ἐπ' ἔσχατον θράσους  
ὑψηλὸν ἐς Δίκας βάθρον  
855 προσέπεσες, ὦ τέκνον, πολύ.  
πατρῶον δ' ἐκτίνεις τιν' ἄθλον.

ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΗ.

Ἀντιστροφή β'.

ἔφανσας ἀλγεινοτάτας ἐμοὶ μερίμνας,  
860 πατρὸς τριπόλιστα οἶκτον, τοῦ τε πρόπαντος  
ἀμετέρου πότμου κλεινοῖς Λαβδακίδαισιν.  
ἰὼ ματρῶναι λέκτρων

But 'tis great renown for a woman who hath perished that she should have shared the doom of the godlike, in her life, and afterward in death.

AN. Ah, I am mocked! In the name of our fathers' gods, can ye not wait till I am gone,—must ye taunt me to my face, O my city, and ye, her wealthy sons? Ah, fount of Dircè, and thou holy ground of Thebè whose chariots are many; ye, at least, will bear me witness, in what sort, unwept of friends, and by what laws I pass to the rock-closed prison of my strange tomb, ah me unhappy! who have no home on the earth or in the shades, no home with the living or with the dead.

CH. Thou hast rushed forward to the utmost verge of daring; and against that throne where Justice sits on high thou hast fallen, my daughter, with a grievous fall. But in this ordeal thou art paying, haply, for thy father's sin.

AN. Thou hast touched on my bitterest thought,—awaking the ever-new lament for my sire and for all the doom given to us, the famed house of Labdacus. Alas for the horrors of the mother's bed! alas for the wretched mother's slumber at the side of her own son,—and my sire! From what manner of parents did I take my miserable being!

865 ἄται κοιμήματά τ' αὐτογέννητ' ἐμῷ πατρὶ δυσμόρου  
ματρός,  
οἷων ἐγὼ ποθ' ἅ ταλαίφρων ἔφυν·  
πρὸς οὓς ἀραῖος, ἄγαμος, ἄδ' ἐγὼ μέτοικος ἔρχομαι.  
870 ἰὼ δυσπότημων ἰὼ γάμων κασίγνητε κύρσας,  
θανῶν ἔτ' οὔσαν κατήναρές με.

ΧΟΡΟΣ.

Ἀντιστροφή γ'.

σέβειν μὲν εὐσέβειά τις,  
κράτος δ' ὅτῳ κράτος μέλει  
παραβατὸν οὐδαμῇ πέλει,  
875 σέ δ' αὐτόγνωτος ὤλεσ' ὀργά.

ANTIGONH.

Ἐπιδός.

ἄκλαντος, ἄφιλος, ἀνυμέναιος ταλαίφρων ἄγομαι  
τάνδ' ἐτοίμαν ὁδόν·  
οὐκέτι μοι τόδε λαμπάδος ἱρὸν  
880 ὄμμα θέμις ὄρᾶν ταλαίνα·  
τὸν δ' ἐμὸν πότμον ἀδάκρυτον  
οὐδεὶς φίλων στενάζει.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

ἄρ' ἴστ', αἰοιδὰς καὶ γόους πρὸ τοῦ θανεῖν,  
ὥς οὐδ' ἂν εἰς παύσαιτ' ἂν, εἰ χρεῖη λέγευν;  
885 οὐκ ἄξεθ' ὥς τάχιστα; καὶ κατηρεφεῖ  
τύμβῳ περιπτύξαντες, ὥς εἴρηκ' ἐγώ,  
ἄφετε μόνην, ἔρημον, εἴτε χρῇ θανεῖν,  
εἴτ' ἐν τοιαύτῃ ζῶσα τυμβεύειν στέγη.  
ἡμεῖς γὰρ ἄγνοὶ τοῦπὶ τήνδε τὴν κόρην·  
890 μετοικίας δ' οὖν τῆς ἄνω στερήσεται.

ANTIGONE.

And to them I go thus, accursed, unwed, to share their home. Alas, my brother, ill-starred in thy marriage, in thy death thou hast undone my life!

CH. Reverent action claims a certain praise for reverence; but an offence against power cannot be brooked by him who hath power in his keeping. Thy self-willed temper hath wrought thy ruin.

AN. Unwept, unfriended, without marriage-song, I am led forth in my sorrow on this journey that can be delayed no more. No longer, hapless one, may I behold yon day-star's sacred eye; but for my fate no tear is shed, no friend makes moan.

CR. Know ye not that songs and wailings before death would never cease, if it profited to utter them? Away with her—away! And when ye have enclosed her, according to my word, in her vaulted grave, leave her alone, forlorn—whether she wishes to die, or to live a buried life in such a home. Our hands are clean as touching this maiden. But this is certain—she shall be deprived of her sojourn in the light.

AN. Tomb, bridal-chamber, eternal prison in the caverned rock, whither I go to find mine own, those many who have perished, and whom Persephone hath received among the dead! Last of all

- ὦ τύμβος, ὦ νυμφεῖον, ὦ κατασκαφῆς  
 οἴκησις ἀείφουρος, οἳ πορεύομαι  
 πρὸς τοὺς ἑμαντῆς, ὦν ἀριθμὸν ἐν νεκροῖς  
 πλείστον δέδεκται Φερσέφασσ' ὀλωλότων·  
 895 ὦν λισθία ἄγ' καὶ κάκιστα δὴ μακρῶ  
 κάτειμι, πρὶν μοι μοῖραν ἐξήκειν βίου.  
 ἐλθοῦσα μέντοι κάρτ' ἐν ἐλπίσιν τρέφω  
 φίλη μὲν ἦξιεν πατρί, προσφιλῆς δὲ σοί,  
 μήτηρ, φίλη δὲ σοί, κασίγνητον κára·  
 900 ἐπεὶ θανόντας αὐτόχειρ ὑμᾶς ἐγὼ  
 ἔλουσα κακόσμησα κάπιτυμβίους  
 χοὰς ἔδωκα· νῦν δέ, Πολύνεικες, τὸ σὸν  
 δέμας περιστέλλουσα τοιάδ' ἄρηνυμαι.  
 καίτοι σ' ἐγὼ τίμησα τοῖς φρονούσιν εὖ·  
 905 οὐ γάρ ποτ' οὐτ' ἂν εἰ τέκνων μήτηρ ἔφυν,  
 οὐτ' εἰ πόσις μοι κατθανὼν ἐτήκετο,  
 βία πολιτῶν τόνδ' ἂν ἠρόμην πόνον.  
 τίνος νόμου δὴ ταῦτα πρὸς χάριν λέγω;  
 πόσις μὲν ἂν μοι κατθανόντος ἄλλος ᾔην,  
 910 καὶ παῖς ἀπ' ἄλλου φωτός, εἰ τοῦδ' ἤμπλακον·  
 μητρὸς δ' ἐν Ἰδίου καὶ πατρὸς κεκευθότῳ  
 οὐκ ἔστ' ἀδελφὸς ὅστις ἂν βλάστοι ποτέ.  
 τοιῷδε μέντοι σ' ἐκπρότιμήσασ' ἐγὼ  
 νόμῳ, Κρέοντι ταῦτ' ἔδοξ' ἀμαρτάνειν  
 915 καὶ δεινὰ τολμᾶν, ὦ κασίγνητον κára.  
 καὶ νῦν ἄγει με διὰ χερῶν οὕτω λαβὼν  
 ἄλεκτρον, ἀνυμέναιον, οὔτε του γάμου  
 μέρος λαχοῦσαν οὔτε παιδείου τροφῆς·  
 ἀλλ' ὧδ' ἔρημος πρὸς φίλων ἢ δύσμορος  
 920 ζῶσ' εἰς θανόντων ἔρχομαι κατασκαφάς,

ANTIGONE.

shall I pass thither, and far most miserably of all, before the term of my life is spent. But I cherish good hope that my coming will be welcome to my father, and pleasant to thee, my mother, and welcome, brother, to thee; for, when ye died, with mine own hands I washed and dressed you, and poured drink-offerings at your graves; and now, Polyneices, 'tis for tending thy corpse that I win such recompense at this.

[And yet I honored thee, as the wise will deem, rightly. Never, had I been a mother of children, or if a husband had been mouldering in death, would I have taken this task upon me in the city's despite. What law, ye ask, is my warrant for that word? The husband lost, another might have been found, and child from another, to replace the first-born; but, father and mother hidden with Hades, no brother's life could ever bloom for me again. Such was the law whereby I held thee first in honor; but Creon deemed me guilty of error therein, and of outrage, ah brother mine! And now he leads me thus, a captive in his hands; no bridal bed, no bridal song hath been mine, no joy of marriage, no portion in the nurture of children; but thus, forlorn of friends, unhappy one, I go living to the vaults of death.]

ANTIFONH.

ποίαν παρεξελθοῦσα δαιμόνων δίκην;  
 τί χρή με τὴν δύστηνον εἰς θεοὺς ἔτι  
 βλέπειν, τίν' αὐδᾶν ξυμμάχων, ἐπεὶ γε δὴ  
 τὴν δυσσέβειαν εὖσεβούσ' ἐκτησάμην;  
 925 ἀλλ' εἰ μὲν οὖν τάδ' ἐστὶν ἐν θεοῖς καλά,  
 παθόντες ἂν ξυγγνοῖμεν ἡμαρτηκότες·  
 εἰ δ' οἶδ' ἁμαρτάνουσι, μὴ πλείω κακὰ  
 πάθοιεν ἢ καὶ δρώσιν ἐκδίκως ἐμέ.

ΧΟΡΟΣ.

930 ἔτι τῶν αὐτῶν ἀνέμων αὐταὶ  
 ψυχῆς ῥίπαὶ τήνδε γ' ἔχουσιν.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

τοιγὰρ τούτων τοῖσιν ἄγουσι  
 κλαύμαθ' ὑπάρξει βραδυτήτος ὕπερ.

ANTIFONH.

οἴμοι, θανάτου τοῦτ' ἐγγυτάτω  
 τοῦπος ἀφίκται.

ΧΟΡΟΣ.

935 θαρσεῖν οὐδὲν παραμυθοῦμαι,  
 μὴ οὐ τάδε ταύτη κατακυρούσθαι.

ANTIFONH.

940 ὦ γῆς Θήβης ἄστρ' πατρῶον  
 καὶ θεοὶ προγενεῖς,  
 ἄγομαι δὴ κούκέτι μέλλω.  
 λεύσσετε, Θήβης οἱ κοιρανίδαι,  
 τὴν βασιλειδῶν μούνην λοιπὴν,  
 οἷα πρὸς οἶων ἀνδρῶν πάσχω,  
 τὴν εὖσεβίαν σεβίσασα.

ANTIGONE.

And what law of heaven have I transgressed? Why, hapless one, should I look to the gods any more,—what ally should I invoke,—when by piety I have earned the name of impious? Nay, then, if these things are pleasing to the gods, when I have suffered my doom, I shall come to know my sin; but if the sin is with my judges, I could wish them no fuller measure of evil than they, on their part, mete wrongfully to me.

CH. Still the same tempest of the soul vexes this maiden with the same fierce gusts.

CR. Then for this shall her guards have cause to rue their slowness.

AN. Ah me! that word hath come very near to death.

CR. I can cheer thee with no hope that this doom is not thus to be fulfilled.

AN. O city of my fathers in the land of Thebè! O ye gods, eldest of our race!—they lead me hence—now, now—they tarry not! Behold me, princes of Thebes, the last daughter of the house of your kings,—see what I suffer, and from whom, because I feared to cast away the fear of Heaven!

*ANTIGONE is led away by the guards.*

# ΣΟΦΟΚΛΕΟΥΣ

## Στάσιμον δ'.

ΧΟΡΟΣ.

Στροφή α.

ἔτλα καὶ Δανάας οὐράνιον φῶς  
 945 ἀλλάξαι δέμας ἐν χαλκοδέτοις αὐλαῖς·  
 κρυπτομένᾳ δ' ἐν τυμβήρει θαλάμῳ κατεζεύχθη·  
 καίτοι καὶ γενεᾷ τίμιος, ᾧ παῖ, παῖ,  
 950 καὶ Ζηνὸς ταμιεύσκε γονὰς χρυσορύτους.  
 ἀλλ' ἅ μοιριδία τις δύνασις δεινὰ·  
 οὐτ' ἄν νιν ὄλβος οὐτ' Ἄρης, οὐ πύργος, οὐχ ἀλίκτυποι  
 κελαυνὰ νᾶες ἐκφύγειν.

Ἀντιστροφή α.

955 ζεύχθη δ' ὀξύχολος παῖς ὁ Δρύαντος,  
 Ἡδωνῶν βασιλεύς, κερτομίῳ ὀργαῖς,  
 ἐκ Διονύσου πετρώδει κατάφαρκτος ἐν δεσμῷ.  
 οὕτω τᾶς μανίας δεινὸν ἀποστάζει  
 960 ἀνθηρόν τε μένος· κείνος ἐπέγνω μανίαις  
 ψαύων τὸν θεὸν ἐν κερτομίῳ γλώσσῃς.  
 παύεσκε μὲν γὰρ ἐνθέους γυναικάς· εὐῖόν τε πῦρ,  
 965 φιλαύλους τ' ἠρέθιζε Μούσας.

Στροφή β'.

παρὰ δὲ Κυανεᾶν σπιλάδων διδύμας ἀλὸς  
 ἀκταὶ Βοσπόριαι ἰδ' ὁ Θρηκῶν ἄξενος  
 970 Σαλμυδησός, ὣν' ἀγχίπολις Ἄρης  
 δισσοῖσι Φινεΐδαις  
 εἶδεν ἀρατὸν ἔλκος

CH. Even thus endured Danaë in her beauty to change the light of day for brass-bound walls; and in that chamber, secret as the grave, she was held close prisoner; yet was she of a proud lineage, O my daughter, and charged with the keeping of the seed of Zeus, that fell in the golden rain.

But dreadful is the mysterious power of fate; there is no deliverance from it by wealth or by war, by fenced city, or dark, sea-beaten ships.

And bonds tamed the son of Dryas, swift to wrath, that king of the Edonians; so paid he for his frenzied taunts, when, by the will of Dionysus, he was pent in a rocky prison. There the fierce exuberance of his madness slowly passed away. That man learned to know the god, whom in his frenzy he had provoked with mockeries; for he sought to quell the god-possessed women, and the Bacchanalian fire; and he angered the Muses that love the flute.

And by the waters of the Dark Rocks, the waters of the twofold sea, are the shores of Bosphorus, and Thracian Salmydessus; where Ares, neighbor to the city, saw the accurst, blinding

ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΗ.

τυφλωθὲν ἐξ ἀγρίας δάμαρτος  
 ἀλαδὸν ἀλασφόροις ὁμμάτων κύκλοις  
 975 ἀραχθέντων ὑφ' αἵματηραῖς  
 χείρεσσι καὶ κερκίδων ἀκμαῖσιν.

Ἀντιστροφή β'.

κατὰ δὲ τακόμενοι μέλαιοι μελέαν πάθαν  
 κλαῖον ματρός, ἔχοντες ἀνύμφευτον γονάν·  
 980 ἅ δὲ σπέρμα μὲν ἀρχαιογόνων  
 ἄντας Ἐρεχθεῖδαν,  
 τηλεπόροις δ' ἐν ἄντροις  
 τράφη θυέλλαισιν ἐν πατρώαις  
 985 Βορεὰς ἄμιππος ὀρθόποδος ὑπὲρ πάγου  
 θεῶν παῖς· ἀλλὰ κάπ' ἐκείνῃ  
 Μοῖραι μακραίωνες ἔσχον, ὦ παῖ.

EIGHTH SCENE. CREON. TIRESIAS.

Ἐπεισόδιον ε'.

ΤΕΙΡΕΣΙΑΣ.

Θήβης ἄνακτες, ἤκομεν κοινὴν ὁδὸν  
 δύ' ἐξ ἑνὸς βλέποντε· τοῖς τυφλοῖσι γὰρ  
 990 αὕτη κέλευθος ἐκ προφητοῦ πέλει.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

τί δ' ἔστιν, ὦ γεραῖε Τειρεσία, νέον;

ΤΕΙΡΕΣΙΑΣ.

ἐγὼ διδάξω, καὶ σὺ τῷ μάντει πιθοῦ.

ANTIGONE.

wound dealt to the two sons of Phineus by his fierce wife,—the wound that brought darkness to those vengeance-craving orbs, smitten with her bloody hands, smitten with her shuttle for a dagger.

Pining in their misery, they bewailed their cruel doom, those sons of a mother hapless in her marriage; but she traced her descent from the ancient line of the Erechtheidae; and in far-distant caves she was nursed amid her father's storms; that child of Boreas, swift as a steed over the steep hills, a daughter of gods; yet upon her also the grey Fates bore hard, my daughter.

EIGHTH SCENE. CREON. TIRESIAS.

*Enter TIRESIAS, led by a boy, on the spectators' right.*

TE. Princes of Thebes, we have come with linked steps, both served by the eyes of one; for thus, by a guide's help, the blind must walk.

CR. And what, aged Teiresias, are thy tidings?

TE. I will tell thee; and do thou hearken to the seer.

CR. Indeed, it has not been my wont to slight thy counsel.

TE. Therefore didst thou steer our city's course aright.

ΣΟΦΟΚΛΕΟΥΣ

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

οὐκουν πάρος γε σῆς ἀπεστάτουν φρενός.

ΤΕΙΡΕΣΙΑΣ.

τοιγὰρ δι' ὀρθῆς τήνδε ναυκληρεῖς πόλιν.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

995 ἔχω πεπονθὼς μαρτυρεῖν ὀνήσιμα.

ΤΕΙΡΕΣΙΑΣ.

φρόνει βεβῶς αἶ νῦν ἐπὶ ξυροῦ τύχης.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

τί δ' ἔστω ; ὥς ἐγὼ τὸ σὸν φρίσσω στόμα.

ΤΕΙΡΕΣΙΑΣ.

γνώσει, τέχνης σημεῖα τῆς ἐμῆς κλύων.  
εἰς γὰρ παλαιὸν θᾶκον ὀρνιθοσκόπον  
1000 ἵζων, ἦν μοι παντὸς οἰωνοῦ λιμήν,  
ἀγνώτ' ἀκούω φθόγγον ὀρνίθων, κακῶ  
κλάζοντας οἷστρω καὶ βεβαρβαρωμένῳ·  
καὶ σπῶντας ἐν χηλαῖσιν ἀλλήλους φοναῖς  
ἔγνων· πτερῶν γὰρ ῥοῖβδος οὐκ ἄσημος ἦν.  
1005 εὐθὺς δὲ δείσας ἐμπύρων ἐγενόμην  
βωμοῖσι παμφλέκτοισιν· ἐκ δὲ θυμάτων  
Ἥφαιστος οὐκ ἔλαμπεν, ἀλλ' ἐπὶ σποδῶ  
μυδῶσα κηκὶς μηρίων ἐτήκετο  
καῦτυφε κἀνέπτυε, καὶ μετάρσιοι  
1010 χολαὶ διεσπείροντο, καὶ καταρρυεῖς  
μηροὶ καλυπτῆς ἐξέκειντο πιμελῆς.  
τοιαῦτα παιδὸς τοῦδ' ἐμάνθανον πάρα  
φθίνοντ' ἀσῆμων ὀργίων μαντεύματα·  
ἐμοὶ γὰρ οὗτος ἡγεμών, ἄλλοις δ' ἐγώ.

ANTIGONE.

CR. I have felt, and can attest, thy benefits.

TE. Mark that now, once more, thou standest on fate's fine edge.

CR. What means this? How I shudder at thy message!

TE. Thou wilt learn, when thou hearest the warnings of mine art. As I took my place on mine old seat of augury, where all birds have been wont to gather within my ken, I heard a strange voice among them; they were screaming with dire, feverish rage, that drowned their language in a jargon; and I knew that they were rending each other with their talons, murderously; the whirr of wings told no doubtful tale.

Forthwith, in fear, I essayed burnt-sacrifice on a duly kindled altar: but from my offerings the Fire-god showed no flame; a dank moisture, oozing from the thigh-flesh, trickled forth upon the embers, and smoked, and sputtered; the gall was scattered to the air; and the streaming thighs lay bared of the fat that had been wrapped round them.

Such was the failure of the rites by which I vainly asked a sign, as from this boy I learned; for he is my guide, as I am guide to others. And 'tis thy counsel that hath brought this sickness on our state. For the altars of our city and of our hearths have been tainted, one and all, by birds and dogs,

# ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΗ.

- 1015 καὶ ταῦτα τῆς σῆς ἐκ φρενὸς νοσεῖ πόλις.  
 βωμοὶ γὰρ ἡμῖν ἐσχάrai τε παντελεῖς  
 πλήρεις ὑπ' οἰωνῶν τε καὶ κυνῶν βορᾶς  
 τοῦ δυσμόρου πεπτῶτος Οἰδίπου γόνου.  
 κᾶτ' οὐ δέχονται θυστάδας λιτὰς ἔτι  
 1020 θεοὶ παρ' ἡμῶν οὐδὲ μηρίων φλόγα,  
 οὐδ' ὄρνις εὐσθήμους ἀπορροιβδεῖ βοάς,  
 ἀνδροφθόρου βεβρωῶτες αἵματος λίπος.  
 ταῦτ' οὖν, τέκνον, φρόνησον. ἀνθρώποισι γὰρ  
 τοῖς πᾶσι κοινόν ἐστι τοῦξαμαρτάνειν·  
 1025 ἐπεὶ δ' ἀμάρτη, κείνος οὐκέτ' ἔστ' ἀνὴρ  
 ἄβουλος οὐδ' ἀνολβος, ὅστις ἐς κακὸν  
 πεσὼν ἀκεῖται μῆδ' ἀκίνητος πέλει.  
 αὐθαδία τοι σκαιότητ' ὀφλισκάνει.  
 ἀλλ' εἶκε τῷ θανόντι μῆδ' ὀλωλότα  
 1030 κέντει. τίς ἀλκὴ τὸν θανόντ' ἐπικτανεῖν;  
 εὖ σοι φρονήσας εὖ λέγω· τὸ μανθάνειν δ'  
 ἥδιστον εὖ λέγοντος, εἰ κέρδος λέγοι.

## ΚΡΕΩΝ.

- ὦ πρέσβυ, πάντες ὥστε τοξόται σκοποῦ  
 τοξεύειτ' ἀνδρὸς τοῦδε, κοῦδὲ μαντικῆς  
 1035 ἄπρακτος ὑμῖν εἰμι· τῶν ὑπαὶ γένους  
 ἐξημπόλημαι κάμπεφόρτισμαι πάλαι.  
 κερδαίνειτ', ἐμπολάτε τὰπὸ Σάρδεων  
 ἤλεκτρον, εἰ βούλεσθε, καὶ τὸν Ἰνδικὸν  
 χρυσόν· τάφῳ δ' ἐκείνῳ οὐχὶ κρύψετε.  
 1040 οὐδ' εἰ θέλουσ' οἱ Ζηνὸς αἰετοὶ βορὰν  
 φέρειν νυν ἀρπάζοντες ἐς Διὸς θρόνους,  
 οὐδ' ὥς μίasma τοῦτο μὴ τρέσας ἐγὼ  
 θάπτειν παρήσω κείνον. εὖ γὰρ οἶδ' ὅτι

with carrion from the hapless corpse, the son of Oedipus : and therefore the gods no more accept prayer and sacrifice at our hands, or the flame of meat-offering ; nor doth any bird give a clear sign by its shrill cry, for they have tasted the fatness of a slain man's blood.

Think, then, on these things, my son. All men are liable to err ; but when an error hath been made, that man is no longer witless or unblest who heals the ill into which he hath fallen, and remains not stubborn. Self-will, we know, incurs the charge of folly. Nay, allow the claim of the dead ; stab not the fallen ; what prowess is it to slay the slain anew ? I have sought thy good, and for thy good I speak : and never is it sweeter to learn from a good counsellor than when he counsels for thine own gain.

CR. Old man, ye all shoot your shafts at me, as archers at the butts ; — ye must needs practise on me with seer-craft also ; — aye, the seer-tribe hath long trafficked in me, and made me their merchandise. Gain your gains, drive your trade, if ye list, in the silver-gold of Sardis and the gold of India ; but ye shall not hide that man in the grave,

ΣΟΦΟΚΛΕΟΥΣ

θεοὺς μαιίνειν οὐτις ἀνθρώπων σθένει.  
 1045 πίπτουσι δ', ὧ γεραῖε Τειρεσία, βροτῶν  
 χοῖ πολλὰ δεινοὶ πτώματ' αἰσχροί, ὅταν λόγους  
 αἰσχροὺς καλῶς λέγωσι τοῦ κέρδους χάριν.

ΤΕΙΡΕΣΙΑΣ.

φεῦ·

ἄρ' οἶδεν ἀνθρώπων τις, ἄρα φράζεται,

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

τί χρῆμα; ποῖον τοῦτο πάγκοινον λέγεις;

ΤΕΙΡΕΣΙΑΣ.

1050 ὅσῳ κράτιστον κτημάτων εὐβουλία;

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

ὅσῳ περ, οἶμαι, μὴ φρονεῖν πλείστη βλάβη.

ΤΕΙΡΕΣΙΑΣ.

ταύτης σὺ μέντοι τῆς νόσου πλήρης ἔφυς.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

οὐ βούλομαι τὸν μάντιν ἀντειπεῖν κακῶς.

ΤΕΙΡΕΣΙΑΣ.

καὶ μὴν λέγεις, ψευδῇ με θεσπίζειν λέγων.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

1055 τὸ μαντικὸν γὰρ πᾶν φιλάργυρον γένος.

ΤΕΙΡΕΣΙΑΣ.

τὸ δ' ἐκ τυράννων αἰσχροκέρδειαν φιλεῖ.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

ἄρ' οἶσθα ταγοὺς ὄντας ἂν λέγῃς λέγων;

ΤΕΙΡΕΣΙΑΣ.

οἶδ'. ἐξ ἐμοῦ γὰρ τήνδ' ἔχεις σώσας πόλιν.

ANTIGONE.

—no, though the eagles of Zeus should bear the carrion morsels to their Master's throne—no, not for dread of that defilement will I suffer his burial:—for well I know that no mortal can defile the gods.—But, aged Teiresias, the wisest fall with a shameful fall, when they clothe shameful thoughts in fair words, for lucre's sake.

TE. Alas! Doth any man know, doth any consider . . . .

CR. Whereof? What general truth dost thou announce?

TE. How precious, above all wealth, is good counsel.

CR. As folly, I think, is the worst mischief.

TE. Yet thou art tainted with that distemper.

CR. I would not answer the seer with a taunt.

TE. But thou dost, in saying that I prophesy falsely.

CR. Well, the prophet-tribe was ever fond of money.

TE. And the race bred of tyrants loves base gain.

CR. Knowest thou that thy speech is spoken of thy King?

# ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΗ.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

σοφὸς σὺ μάντις, ἀλλὰ τὰδικεῖν φιλῶν.

1120

ΤΕΙΡΕΣΙΑΣ.

1060 ὄρσεις με τὰκίνητα διὰ φρενῶν φράσαι.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

1130 κίνει, μόνον δὲ μὴ ἐπὶ κέρδεσιν λέγων.

ΤΕΙΡΕΣΙΑΣ.

οὕτω γὰρ ἤδη καὶ δοκῶ τὸ σὸν μέρος.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

ὥς μὴ ἔμπολήσων ἴσθι τὴν ἐμὴν φρένα.

ΤΕΙΡΕΣΙΑΣ.

ἀλλ' εἶ γέ τοι κάτισθι μὴ πολλοὺς ἔτι  
1065 τρόχους ἀμίλλητῆρας ἡλίου τελῶν,  
ἐν οἷσι τῶν σῶν αὐτὸς ἐκ σπλάγχνων ἔνα  
νέκυν νεκρῶν ἀμοιβὸν ἀντιδοὺς ἔσει,  
ἀνθ' ὧν ἔχεις μὲν τῶν ἄνω βαλὼν κάτω  
ψυχὴν τ' ἀτίμως ἐν τάφῳ κατώκισας,  
1070 ἔχεις δὲ τῶν κάτωθεν ἐνθάδ' αὖ θεῶν  
ἄμοιρον, ἀκτέριστον, ἀνόσιον νέκυν.  
ὧν οὔτε σοὶ μέτεστιν οὔτε τοῖς ἄνω  
θεοῖσιν, ἀλλ' ἐκ σοῦ βιάζονται τάδε.  
τούτων σε λωβητῆρες ὑστεροφθόροι  
1075 λοχῶτιν Ἄιδου καὶ θεῶν Ἑρινύες,  
ἐν τοῖσιν αὐτοῖς τοῖσδε ληφθῆναι κακοῖς.  
καὶ ταῦτ' ἄθρησον εἰ κατηργυρωμένος  
λέγω· φανεῖ γὰρ οὐ μακροῦ χρόνου τριβὴ  
ἀνδρῶν γυναικῶν σοῖς δόμοις κωκύματα.

ANTIGONE.

TE. I know it; for through me thou hast saved Thebes.

CR. Thou art a wise seer; but thou lovest evil deeds.

TE. Thou wilt rouse me to utter the dread secret in my soul.

CR. Out with it! — Only speak it not for gain.

TE. Indeed, methinks, I shall not, — as touching thee.

CR. Know that thou shalt not trade on my resolve.

TE. Then know thou — aye, know it well — that thou shalt not live through many more courses of the sun's swift chariot, ere one begotten of thine own loins shall have been given by thee, a corpse for corpses; because thou hast thrust children of the sunlight to the shades, and ruthlessly lodged a living soul in the grave; but keepest in this world one who belongs to the gods infernal, a corpse unburied, unhonored, all unhallowed. In such thou hast no part, nor have the gods above, but this is a violence done to them by thee. Therefore the avenging destroyers lie in wait for thee, the Furies of Hades and of the gods, that thou mayest be taken in these same ills.

ΣΟΦΟΚΛΕΟΥΣ

- 1080 ἔχθραί δὲ πᾶσαι συνταράσσονται πόλεις,  
 ὅσων σπαράγματ' ἦ κύνες καθήγνισαν,  
 ἦ θήρες, ἦ τις πτηνὸς οἰωνός, φέρων  
 ἀνόσιον ὁσμὴν ἐστιοῦχον ἐς πόλιν·  
 τοιαῦτά σου, λυπεῖς γάρ, ὥστε τοξότης
- 1085 ἀφῆκα θυμῷ καρδίας τοξεύματα  
 βέβαια, τῶν σὺ θάλπος οὐχ ὑπεκδραμεῖ.  
 ὦ παῖ, σὺ δ' ἡμᾶς ἄπαγε πρὸς δόμους, ἵνα  
 τὸν θυμὸν οὗτος ἐς νεωτέρους ἀφῇ  
 καὶ γυνῷ τρέφειν τὴν γλῶσσαν ἡσυχωτέραν
- 1090 τὸν νοῦν τ' ἀμείνω τῶν φρενῶν ὧν νῦν φέρει.

ΧΟΡΟΣ.

ἀνὴρ, ἄναξ, βέβηκε δεινὰ θεσπίσας.  
 ἐπιστάμεσθα δ', ἐξ ὅτου λευκὴν ἐγὼ  
 τήνδ' ἐκ μελαίνης ἀμφιβάλλομαι τρίχα,  
 μή πώ ποτ' αὐτὸν ψεύδος ἐς πόλιν λακεῖν.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

- 1095 ἔγνωκα καὐτός, καὶ ταράσσομαι φρένας.  
 τό τ' εἰκαθεῖν γὰρ δεινόν, ἀντιστάντα δὲ  
 ἄτη πατάξαι θυμὸν ἐν δεινῷ πάρα.

ΧΟΡΟΣ.

εὐβουλίας δεῖ, παῖ Μενουκίεως, λαβεῖν.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

τί δῆτα χρὴ δρᾶν φράζε, πείσομαι δ' ἐγώ.

ΧΟΡΟΣ.

- 1100 ἔλθων κόρην μὲν ἐκ κατώρυχος στέγης  
 ἄνες, κτίσον δὲ τῷ προκειμένῳ τάφον.

ANTIGONE.

And mark well if I speak these things as a hireling. A time not long to be delayed shall awaken the wailing of men and of women in thy house. And a tumult of hatred against thee stirs all the cities whose mangled sons had the burial-rite from dogs, or from wild beasts, or from some winged bird that bore a polluting breath to each city that contains the hearths of the dead.

Such arrows for thy heart—since thou provok-est me—have I launched at thee, archer-like, in my anger,—sure arrows, of which thou shalt not escape the smart.—Boy, lead me home, that he may spend his rage on younger men, and learn to keep a tongue more temperate, and to bear within his breast a better mind than now he bears.

*Exit TEIRESIAS.*

CH. The man hath gone, O King, with dread prophecies. And, since the hair on this head, once dark, hath been white, I know that he <sup>\*</sup>hath never been a false prophet to our city.

CR. I, too, know it well, and am troubled in soul. 'Tis dire to yield; but, by resistance, to smite my pride with ruin—this, too, is a dire choice.

# ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΗ.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

καὶ ταῦτ' ἐπαινεῖς καὶ δοκεῖς παρειαθεῖν;

ΧΟΡΟΣ.

ὅσον γ', ἄναξ, τάχιστα· συντέμνουσι γὰρ  
θεῶν ποδώκεις τοὺς κακόφρονας Βλάβαι.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

1105 οἴμοι· μόλις μὲν, καρδίας δ' ἐξίσταμαι  
τὸ δρᾶν, ἀνάγκη δ' οὐχὶ δυσμαχητέον.

ΧΟΡΟΣ.

δρᾶ νυν τάδ' ἐλθὼν μηδ' ἐπ' ἄλλοισι τρέπε.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

ὦδ' ὡς ἔχω στείχοιμ' ἄν. ἵτ' ἵτ' ὁπάονες,  
οἳ τ' οὐντες οἳ τ' ἀπόντες, ἄξινας χερσὶν  
1110 ὀρμᾶσθ' ἐλόντες εἰς ἐπόψιον τόπον.

ἐγὼ δ', ἐπειδὴ δόξα τῇδ' ἐπεστράφη,  
αὐτός τ' ἔδησα καὶ παρὼν ἐκλύσομαι.  
δέδοικα γὰρ μὴ τοὺς καθεστῶτας νόμους  
ἄριστον ἢ σώζοντᾶ τὸν βίον τελεῖν.

Ἐπόρχημα.

ΧΟΡΟΣ.

Στροφή α.

1115 πολυνύμμε, Καδμείας νύμφας ἄγαλμα

καὶ Διὸς βαρυβρεμέτα

γένος, κλυτὰν δὲ ἀμφέπει

Ἰκαρίαν, μέδεις δέ

1120 παγκοίνοις Ἐλευσινίας

CH. Son of Menoeceus, it behoves thee to take wise counsel.

CR. What should I do, then? Speak, and I will obey.

CH. Go thou, and free the maiden from her rocky chamber, and make a tomb for the unburied dead.

CR. And this is thy counsel? Thou wouldst have me yield?

CH. Yea, King, and with all speed; for swift harms from the gods cut short the folly of men.

CR. Ah me, 'tis hard, but I resign my cherished resolve,—I obey. We must not wage a vain war with destiny.

CH. Go, thou, and do these things; leave them not to others.

CR. Even as I am I'll go:—on, on, my servants, each and all of you,—take axes in your hands, and hasten to the ground that ye see yonder! Since our judgment hath taken this turn, I will be present to unloose her, as I myself bound her. My heart misgives me, 'tis best to keep the established laws, even to life's end.

CH. O thou of many names, glory of the Cadmeian bride, offspring of loud-thundering Zeus! thou who watchest over famed Italia, and reignest,

ΣΟΦΟΚΛΕΟΥΣ

Δηοῦς ἐν κόλποις, Βακχεῦ, Βακχᾶν

ὁ ματρόπολιν Θήβαν

1125 Ἴσμηνοῦ ρείθρων, ἀγρίου τ' ἐπὶ σπορᾷ δράκοντος.

Ἀντιστροφή α.

σέ δ' ὑπὲρ διλόφου πέτρας στέροψ ὅπως

λιγνύς, ἔνθα Κωρύκται

νύμφαι στείχουσι Βακχίδες,

1130 Κασταλίας τε νᾶμα

καί σε Νυσαίων ὀρέων

κισσῆρεις ὄχθαι χλωρά τ' ἄκτα

πολυστάφυλος πέμπει,

ἀμβρότων ἐπέων

1135 εὐαζόντων, Θηβαίας ἐπισκοποῦντ' ἀγνιάς.

Στροφή β.

τὰν ἐκ πασᾶν τιμᾶς ὑπερτάταν πόλεων

ματρί σὺν κεραυνία.

1140 καὶ νῦν, ὥς βιαίᾳς ἔχεται

πάνδαμος πόλις ἐπὶ νόσου,

μολεῖν καθαρσίῳ ποδὶ Παργασίαν ὑπὲρ κλιτῶν

1145 ἢ στονόεντα πορθμόν.

Ἀντιστροφή β.

ἰὼ πῦρ πνειόντων χοράγ' ἄστρον, νυχίων

φθεγμάτων ἐπίσκοπε,

παῖ Διὸς γένεθλον, προφάνηθ',

1150 ὦναξ σαῖς ἅμα περιπόλοις

Θυίαισιν, αἱ σε μαινόμεναι πάννυχον χορεύουσι

τὸν ταμίαν Ἰακχον.

where all guests are welcomed, in the sheltered plain of Eleusinian Deô ! O Bacchus, dweller in Thebè, mother-city of Bacchants, by the softly-gliding stream of Ismenus, on the soil where the fierce dragon's teeth were sown !

Thou hast been seen where torch flames glare through smoke, above the crests of the twin peaks, where move the Corycian nymphs, thy votaries, hard by Castalia's stream.

Thou comest from the ivy-mantled slopes of Nysa's hills, and from the shore green with many-clustered vines, while thy name is lifted up on strains of more than mortal power, as thou visitest the ways of Thebè :

Thebè, of all cities, thou holdest first in honor, thou, and thy mother whom the lightning smote ; and now, when all our people is captive to a violent plague, come thou with healing feet over the Parnassian height, or over the moaning strait !

O thou with whom the stars rejoice as they move, the stars whose breath is fire ; O master of the voices of the night ; son begotten of Zeus ; appear, O king, with thine attendant Thyiads, who in night-long frenzy dance before thee, the giver of good gifts, Iacchus !

# ANTIGONH.

NINTH SCENE. MESSENGER. AFTERWARDS EURYDICE AND  
ATTENDANTS.

Ἐξοδος.

ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ.

1155 Κάδμου πάροιχοι καὶ δόμων Ἀμφίονος,  
οὐκ ἔσθ' ὅποιον στάντ' ἂν ἀνθρώπου βίον  
οὔτ' αἰνέσαιμ' ἂν οὔτ' ἐμεμφαίμην ποτέ.  
τύχη γὰρ ὀρθοῖ καὶ τύχη (καταρρέπει) καταρρέπει  
τὸν εὐτυχοῦντα τὸν τε δυστυχοῦντ' αἰεί,

1160 καὶ μάντις οὐδεὶς τῶν καθεστῶτων βροτοῖς.

Κρέων γὰρ ἦν ζηλωτός, ὥς ἐμοί, ποτέ,  
σώσας μὲν <sup>ἐν</sup> ἐχθρῶν τήνδε Καδμείαν χθόνα  
λαβὼν τε <sup>τῆς</sup> χώρας παντελῇ μοναρχίαν <sup>τῆς</sup> ἰταλίας  
— εὐθύνε, θάλλων εὐγενεῖ τέκνων σπορᾷ· <sup>as the well-</sup>

1165 καὶ νῦν ἀφείται πάντα. τὰς γὰρ ἡδονὰς

ὅταν προδῶσιν ἄνδρες, (οὐ τίθημ' ἐγὼ  
ζῆν τοῦτο), ἀλλ' ἐμφυχον ἡγοῦμαι νεκρόν. <sup>I re k-</sup>  
πλούτει τε γὰρ κατ' οἶκον, εἰ βούλει, μέγα,  
καὶ ζῆ τύραννον <sup>κινῶν</sup> σχῆμ' ἔχων· ἐὰν δ' ἀπῇ <sup>I wōn</sup>  
1170 τούτων τὸ χαίρειν, τ' ἄλλ' ἐγὼ καπνοῦ σκιάς <sup>shadow</sup>  
οὐκ ἂν πριαίμην ἀνδρὶ πρὸς τὴν ἡδονήν.

ΧΟΡΟΣ.

τί δ' αὖ τόδ' ἄχθος βασιλέων ἦκεις φέρων;

ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ.

τεθνήασιν· οἱ δὲ ζῶντες αἴτιοι θανεῖν. <sup>The living</sup>

ΧΟΡΟΣ.

καὶ τίς φονεύει, τίς δ' ὁ κείμενος; λέγε.

<sup>as laid low</sup>

ANTIGONE.

NINTH SCENE. MESSENGER. AFTERWARDS EURYDICÈ AND  
ATTENDANTS.

*Enter MESSENGER, on the spectators' left hand.*

ME. Dwellers by the house of Cadmus and of Amphion, there is no estate of mortal life that I would ever praise or blame as settled. Fortune raises and Fortune humbles the lucky or unlucky from day to day, and no one can prophesy to men concerning those things which are established. For Creon was blest once, as I count bliss ; he had saved this land of Cadmus from its foes ; he was clothed with sole dominion in the land ; he reigned, the glorious sire of princely children. And now all hath been lost. For when a man hath forfeited his pleasures, I count him not as living, — I hold him but a breathing corpse. Heap up riches in thy house, if thou wilt ; live in kingly state ; yet, if there be no gladness therewith, I would not give the shadow of a vapor for all the rest, compared with joy.

CH. And what is this new grief that thou hast to tell for our princes ?

ME. Death ; and the living are guilty for the dead.

CH. And who is the slayer ? Who the stricken ? Speak.

ME. Haemon hath perished ; his blood hath been shed by no stranger.

# ΣΟΦΟΚΛΕΟΥΣ

ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ.

1175 Αἴμων ὄλωλεν· αὐτόχειρ δ' αἰμάσσεται.

ΧΟΡΟΣ.

πότ' ἔρα πατρώας ἤ πρὸς οἰκείας χερός;

ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ.

αὐτὸς πρὸς αὐτοῦ, πατρὶ μηνίσας φόνου.

ΧΟΡΟΣ.

ὦ μάντι, τοῦτος ὥς ἄρ' ὀρθὸν ἤνυσας.

ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ.

ὥς ὦδ' ἐχόντων τᾶλλα βουλευέιν πάρα.

*consider the situation*

ΧΟΡΟΣ.

1180 καὶ μὴν ὀρῶ τάλαιναν Εὐρυδίκην ὁμοῦ,  
δάμαρτα τὴν Κρέοντος· ἐκ δὲ δωμάτων  
ἦτοι κλύουσα παιδὸς ἤ τύχῃ πάρα.

*household of her son or perhaps of her son*

ΕΥΡΥΔΙΚΗ.

ὦ πάντες ἀστοί, τῶν λόγων ἐπ' ἠσθόμην  
πρὸς ἐξοδὸν στείχουσα, Παλλάδος θεᾶς

1185 ὅπως ἰκοίμην εὐγμάτων προσηγόρος.

καὶ τυγχάνω τε κλήθρ' ἀνασπαστοῦ πύλης  
χαλῶσα, καί με φθόγγος οἰκείου κακοῦ

*loosen* βάλλει δι' ὧτων· ὑπὶα δὲ κλίνομαι *stick*

*and read* δείσασα πρὸς δμῳαῖσι κάποπλήσσομαι. *stick*

1190 ἀλλ' ὅστις ἦν ὁ μῦθος αὐθις εἶπατε·

κακῶν γὰρ οὐκ ἄπειρος οὖς' ἀκούσομαι.

*I shall hear, being not inexperienced in ill*

ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ.

*being present*

ἐγώ, φίλη δέσποινα, καὶ παρὼν ἐρῶ,  
κοῦδ' ἐν παρόντων τῆς ἀληθείας ἔπος.

ANTIGONE.

CH. By his father's hand, or by his own?

ME. By his own, in wrath with his sire for the murder.

CH. O prophet, how true, then, hast thou proved thy word!

ME. These things stand thus; ye must consider of the rest.

CH. Lo, I see the hapless Eurydicè, Creon's wife, approaching; she comes from the house by chance, haply,—or because she knows the tidings of her son.

*Enter EURYDICÈ.*

EU. People of Thebes, I heard your words as I was going forth, to salute the goddess Pallas with my prayers. Even as I was loosing the fastenings of the gate, to open it, the message of a household woe smote on mine ear: I sank back, terror-stricken, into the arms of my handmaids, and my senses fled. But say again what the tidings were; I shall hear them as one who is no stranger to sorrow.

ME. Dear lady, I will witness of what I saw, and will leave no word of the truth untold. Why, indeed, should I soothe thee with words in which I must presently be found false? Truth is ever best.—I attended thy lord as his guide to the furthest part of the plain, where the body of Polyneices,

- τί γάρ σε μαλθάσσοιμ' ἂν ὦν ἐς ὕστερον  
 1195 ψεύσται φανούμεθ'; ὀρθὸν ἀλήθει' αἶι.  
 ἐγὼ δὲ σῶ ποδαγὸς ἐσπόμην πόσει  
 πεδίου ἐπ' ἄκρον, ἔνθ' ἔκειτο νηλεὲς  
 κυνοσπάρακτον σῶμα Πολυνείκους ἔτι·  
 καὶ τὸν μὲν, αἰτήσαντες ἐνοδίαν θεὸν  
 1200 Πλούτωνά τ' ὀργὰς εὐμενεῖς κατασχεθεῖν,  
 λούσαντες ἄγνόν λουτρόν, ἐν νεοσπάσιν  
 θαλλοῖς ὃ δὴ ἔλειπτο συγκατήθομεν,  
 καὶ τύμβον ὀρθόκρανον οἰκείας χθονὸς  
 χάσαντες, αὖθις πρὸς λιθόστρωτον κόρης  
 1205 νυμφεῖον Ἄιδου κοῖλον εἰσεβαίνομεν.  
 φωνῆς δ' ἄπωθεν ὀρθίων κωκυμάτων  
 κλύει τις ἀκτέριστον ἀμφὶ παστάδα,  
 καὶ δεσπότη Κρέοντι σημαίνει μολών·  
 τῷ δ' ἀθλίας ἄσημα περιβαίνει βοῆς  
 1210 ἔρποντι μᾶλλον ἄσσον, οἰμῶξας δ' ἔπος  
 ἵησι δυσθρήνητον· ὦ τάλας ἐγώ,  
 ἄρ' εἰμὶ μάντις; ἄρα δυστυχεστάτην  
 κέλευθον ἔρω τῶν παρελθουσῶν ὁδῶν;  
 παιδὸς με σαίνει φθόγγος. ἀλλὰ πρόσπολοι,  
 1215 ἴτ' ἄσσον ὥκεῖς, καὶ παραστάντες τάφῳ  
 ἀθρήσαθ', ἄρμον χόματος λιθοσπαδῇ  
 δύντες πρὸς αὐτὸ στόμιον, εἰ τὸν Αἴμονος  
 φθόγγον συνήμ', ἣ θεοῖσι κλέπτομαι.  
 τὰδ' ἐξ ἀθύμου δεσπότης κελεύσμασιν  
 1220 ἠθροῦμεν· ἐν δὲ λοισθίῳ τυμβεύματι  
 τὴν μὲν κρεμαστὴν αὐχένος κατείδομεν,  
 βρόχῳ μιτῶδει σινδόνης καθημμένην,  
 τὸν δ' ἀμφὶ μέσση περιπετῇ προσκείμενον,  
 εὐνῆς ἀποιμώζοντα τῆς κάτω φθορὰν

torn by dogs, still lay unpitied. We prayed the goddess of the roads, and Pluto, in mercy to restrain their wrath; we washed the dead with holy washing; and with freshly-plucked boughs we solemnly burned such relics as there were. We raised a high mound of his native earth; and then we turned away to enter the maiden's nuptial chamber with rocky couch, the caverned mansion of the bride of Death. And, from afar off, one of us heard a voice of loud wailing at that bride's unhallowed bower; and came to tell our master Creon.

And as the King drew nearer, doubtful sounds of a bitter cry floated around him; he groaned, and said in accents of anguish, 'Wretched that I am, can my foreboding be true? Am I going on the wofullest way that ever I went? My son's voice greets me.—Go, my servants,—haste ye nearer, and when ye have reached the tomb, pass through the gap, where the stones have been wrenched away, to the cell's very mouth,—and look, and see if 'tis Haemon's voice that I know, or if mine ear is cheated by the gods.'

This search, at our despairing master's word, we went to make; and in the furthest part of the tomb we descried *her* hanging by the neck, slung by a threadwrought halter of fine linen; while *he* was embracing her with arms thrown around her waist,—bemoaning the loss of his bride who is with the dead, and his father's deeds, and his own ill-starred love.

ΣΟΦΟΚΛΕΟΥΣ

- 1225 καὶ πατὴρ ἔργα καὶ τὸ δύστηνον λέχος.  
 ὁ δ' ὡς ὁρᾷ σφε, στυγνὸν οἰμῶξας ἔσω  
 χωρεῖ πρὸς αὐτὸν ἀνακωκύσας καλεῖ·  
 ὦ τλήμων, οἷον ἔργον εἰργασαι· τίνα  
 νοῦν ἔσχες; ἐν τῷ συμφορᾷ διεφθάρης;  
 1230 ἔξελθε, τέκνον, ἰκέσιός σε λίσσομαι.  
 τὸν δ' ἀγρίοις ὄσσοισι παπτήνας ὁ παῖς,  
 πτύσας προσώπῳ κοῦδὲν ἀντιπών, ξίφους  
 ἔλκει διπλοῦς κνώδοντας· ἐκ δ' ὀρμωμένου  
 πατὴρ φυγαῖσιν ἤμπλακ'· εἴθ' ὁ δύσμορος  
 1235 αὐτῷ χολωθείς, ὥσπερ εἶχ', ἐπενταθεὶς  
 ἤρεισε πλευραῖς μέσσον ἔγχος· ἐς δ' ὑγρὸν  
 ἀγκῶν' ἔτ' ἔμφρων παρθένω προσπτύσσεται·  
 καὶ φυσιῶν ὀξείαν ἐκβάλλει ῥοήν  
 λευκῇ παρειᾷ φοινίου σταλάγματος.  
 1240 κεῖται δὲ νεκρὸς περὶ νεκρῷ, τὰ νυμφικὰ  
 τέλη λαχὼν δειλαιοῖς ἐν γ' Αἰδοῦ δόμοις,  
 δείξας ἐν ἀνθρώποισι τὴν ἀβουλίαν,  
 ὅσῳ μέγιστον ἀνδρὶ πρόσκειται κακόν.

ΧΟΡΟΣ.

- τί τοῦτ' ἂν εἰκάσεις; ἡ γυνὴ πάλιν  
 1245 φροῦδῃ, πρὶν εἰπεῖν ἐσθλὸν ἢ κακὸν λόγον.

ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ.

- καὶ τὸς τεθάμβηκ'· ἐλπίσιν δὲ βόσκομαι  
 ἄχθ' τέκνου κλύουσιν ἐς πόλιν γόους  
 οὐκ ἀξιώσειν, ἀλλ' ὑπὸ στέγῃς ἔσω  
 δμωαῖς προθήσειν πένθος οἰκεῖον στένειν·  
 1250 [γνώμης γὰρ οὐκ ἄπειρος, ὥσθ' ἀμαρτάνειν.]

ANTIGONE.

But his father, when he saw him, cried aloud with a dread cry, and went in, and called to him with a voice of wailing :— ' Unhappy, what a deed hast thou done ! What thought hath come to thee ? What manner of mischance hath marred thy reason ? Come forth, my child ! I pray thee ! I implore ! ' But the boy glared at him with fierce eyes, spat in his face, and, without a word of answer, drew his cross-hilted sword :— as his father rushed forth in flight, he missed his aim ;— then, hapless one, wroth with himself, he straightway leaned with all his weight against his sword, and drove it, half its length, into his side ; and, while sense lingered, he clasped the maiden to his faint embrace, and, as he gasped, sent forth on her pale cheek the swift stream of the oozing blood.

Corpse enfolding corpse he lies ; he hath won his nuptial rites, poor youth, not here, yet in the halls of Death ; and he hath witnessed to mankind that, of all curses which cleave to man, ill counsel is the sovereign curse.

*EURYDICÉ retires into the house.*

CH. What wouldst thou augur from this ? The lady hath turned back, and is gone, without a word good or evil.

ME. I, too, am startled ; yet I nourish the hope that, at these sore tidings of her son, she cannot deign to give her sorrow public vent, but in the privacy of the house will set her handmaids to

## ANTIGONH.

ΧΟΡΟΣ.

οὐκ οἶδ'· ἐμοὶ δ' οὖν ἤ τ' ἄγαν σιγὴ βαρὺ  
δοκεῖ προσεῖναι χὴ μάτην πολλὴ βοή.

ΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ.

ἀλλ' εἰσόμεσθα, μή τι καὶ κατάσχετον  
κρυφῇ καλύπτει καρδιά θυμουμένη,  
1255 δόμους παραστείχοντες. εὐ γὰρ οὖν λέγεις·  
καὶ τῆς ἄγαν γάρ ἐστί που σιγῆς βάρος.

TENTH SCENE. CREON AND MESSENGER.

ΧΟΡΟΣ.

καὶ μὴν ὄδ' ἄναξ αὐτὸς ἐφήκει  
μνημ' ἐπίσημον διὰ χειρὸς ἔχων,  
εἰ θέμις εἰπεῖν, οὐκ ἄλλοτρίαν  
1260 ἄτην, ἀλλ' αὐτὸς ἄμαρτῶν.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

Στροφή ἤ.

ἰώ,  
φρενῶν δυσφρόνων ἁμαρτήματα  
στερεὰ θανατόεντ'.  
ὦ κτανόντας τε καὶ  
θανόντας βλέποντες ἐμφυλίου.  
1265 ὦμοι ξμῶν ἄνολβα βουλευμάτων.  
ἰὼ παῖ, νέος νέφ' ξὺν μόρῳ,  
αἰαῖ αἰαῖ,  
ἔθανες, ἀπελύθης,  
ἐμαῖς οὐδὲ σαῖσι δυσβουλίαις.

ANTIGONE.

mourn the household grief. For she is not untaught of discretion, that she should err.

CH. I know not; but to me, at least, a strained silence seems to portend peril, no less than vain abundance of lament.

ME. Well, I will enter the house, and learn whether indeed she is not hiding some repressed purpose in the depths of a passionate heart. Yea, thou sayest well: excess of silence, too, may have a perilous meaning.

*Exit* MESSENGER.

TENTH SCENE. CREON AND MESSENGER.

*Enter* CREON *on the spectators' left, with attendants, carrying the shrouded body of* HAEMON *on a bier.*

CH. Lo, yonder the King himself draws near, bearing that which tells too clear a tale,—the work of no stranger's madness,—if we may say it,—but of his own misdeeds.

CR. Woe for the sins of a darkened soul, stubborn sins, fraught with death! Ah, ye behold us, the sire who hath slain, the son who hath perished! Woe is me, for the wretched blindness of my coun-

## ΣΟΦΟΚΛΕΟΥΣ

ΧΟΡΟΣ.

1270 οἷμ' ὥς ἔοικας ὀψὲ τὴν δίκην ἰδεῖν.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

Στροφή β'.

οἷμοι,

ἔχω μαθὼν δείλαιος· ἐν δ' ἐμῷ κάρᾳ  
θεὸς τότ' ἄρα τότε μέγα βάρος μ' ἔχων  
ἔπαισεν, ἐν δ' ἔσεισεν ἀγρίαις ὁδοῖς,

1275 οἷμοι, λακπάτητον ἀντρέπων χαράν.

φεῦ φεῦ, ᾧ πόνοι βροτῶν δύσπονοι.

ΕΞΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ.

ὦ δέσποθ', ὥς ἔχων τε καὶ κεκτημένος,  
τὰ μὲν πρὸ χειρῶν τάδε φέρων τὰ δ' ἐν δόμοις

1280 ἔοικας ἥκειν καὶ τάχ' ὀψεσθαι κακά.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

τί δ' ἔστιν αὖ κάκιον, ἢ κακῶν ἔτι;

ΕΞΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ.

γυνὴ τέθνηκε τοῦδε παμμήτωρ νεκροῦ,  
δύστηνος, ἄρτι νεοτόμοισι πλήγμασιν.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

Ἀντιστροφή α'.

ἰώ,

ἰὼ δυσκάθατος Ἄϊδον λιμήν,

1285 τί μ' ἄρα τί μ' ὀλέκεις;

ὦ κακάγγελτά μοι

προπέμψας ἄχῃ, τινα θροεῖς λόγον;

αἰαῖ, ὀλωλότ' ἄνδρ' ἐπεξεργάσω.

ANTIGONE.

sels ! Alas, my son, thou hast died in thy youth, by a timeless doom, woe is me !—thy spirit hath fled,—not by thy folly, but by mine own !

CH. Ah me, how all too late thou seemest to see the right !

CR. Ah me, I have learned the bitter lesson ! But then, methinks, oh then, some god smote me from above with crushing weight, and hurled me into ways of cruelty, woe is me,—overthrowing and trampling on my joy ! Woe, woe, for the troublous toils of men !

*Enter MESSENGER from the house.*

ME. Sire, thou hast come, methinks, as one whose hands are not empty, but who hath store laid up besides ; thou bearest yonder burden with thee ; and thou art soon to look upon the woes within thy house.

CR. And what worse ill is yet to follow upon ills ?

ME. Thy queen hath died, true mother of yon corpse — ah, hapless lady !—by blows newly dealt.

CR. Oh Hades, all-receiving, whom no sacrifice can appease ! Hast thou, then, no mercy for me ?

ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΗ.

τί φῆς, ὦ παῖ, τίνα λέγεις μοι νέον,  
 1290 αἰαῖ αἰαῖ,  
 σφάγιον ἐπ' ὀλέθρῳ  
 γυναικεῖον ἀμφικεῖσθαι μόρον;

ΕΞΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ.

ὄρᾱν πάρεστιν· οὐ γὰρ ἐν μυχοῖς ἔτι.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

Ἀντιστροφὴ β'.

οἴμοι,  
 1295 κακὸν τόδ' ἄλλο δεύτερον βλέπω τάλας.  
 τίς ἄρα, τίς με πότμος ἔτι περιμένει;  
 ἔχω μὲν ἐν χεῖρεσσιν ἀρτίως τέκνον,  
 τάλας, τὸν δ' ἔναντα προσβλέπω νεκρόν.  
 1300 φεῦ φεῦ μᾶτερ ἀθλίᾳ, φεῦ τέκνον.

ΕΞΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ.

ἡ δ' ὀξυθήκτῳ βωμία περὶ ξίφει  
 λύει κελαιὰ βλέφαρα, κωκύσασα μὲν  
 τοῦ πρὶν θανόντος Μεγαρέως κλεινὸν λάχος,  
 αὔθις δὲ τοῦδε, λοίσθιον δὲ σοὶ κακὰς  
 1305 πράξεις ἐφυμνήσασα τῷ παιδοκτόνῳ.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

Στροφή γ'.

αἰαῖ αἰαῖ,  
 ἀνέπταν φόβῳ. τί μ' οὐκ ἀνταίαν  
 ἔπαισέν τις ἀμφιθήκτῳ ξίφει;  
 1310 δειλαῖος ἐγὼ αἰαῖ,  
 δειλαία δὲ συγκέκραμαι δῦα.

ANTIGONE.

O thou herald of evil, bitter tidings, what word dost thou utter? Alas, I was already as dead, and thou hast smitten me anew! What sayest thou, my son? What is this new message that thou bringest — woe, woe is me! — of a wife's doom, — of slaughter heaped on slaughter?

CH. Thou canst behold: 'tis no longer hidden within.

*The doors of the palace are opened, and the corpse of EURYDICE is disclosed.*

CR. Ah me, — yonder I behold a new, a second woe! What destiny, ah what, can yet await me? I have but now raised my son in my arms, — and there, again, I see a corpse before me! Alas, alas, unhappy mother! Alas, my child!

ME. There, at the altar, self-stabbed with a keen knife, she suffered her darkening eyes to close, when she had wailed for the noble fate of Megareus who died before, and then for his fate who lies there, — and when, with her last breath, she had invoked evil fortunes upon thee, the slayer of thy sons.

CR. Woe, woe! I thrill with dread. Is there none to strike me to the heart with two-edged

# ΣΟΦΟΚΛΕΟΥΣ

ΕΞΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ.

ὥς αἰτίαν γε τῶνδε κακείνων ἔχων  
πρὸς τῆς θανούσης τῆσδ' ἐπεσκήπτου μόρων.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

ποίῳ δὲ καπελύσατ' ἐν φοναῖς τρόπῳ;

ΕΞΑΓΓΕΛΟΣ.

1315 παίσασ' ὑφ' ἥπαρ αὐτόχειρ αὐτήν, ὅπως  
παιδὸς τόδ' ἦσθαι ὀξυκώκυντον πάθος.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

Στροφή δ'.

ὦμοι μοι, τὰδ' οὐκ ἐπ' ἄλλον βροτῶν  
1320 ἐμᾶς ἀρμόσει ποτ' ἐξ αἰτίας.  
ἐγὼ γάρ σ' ἐγὼ ἔκανον, ὦ μέλεος,  
ἐγὼ, φάμ' ἔτυμον, ἰὼ πρόσπολοι,  
1325 ἄγετέ μ' ὅτι τάχος, ἄγετέ μ' ἐκποδῶν  
τὸν οὐκ ὄντα μᾶλλον ἢ μηδένα.

ΧΟΡΟΣ.

κέρδη παραινεῖς, εἴ τι κέρδος ἐν κακοῖς·  
βράχιστα γὰρ κράτιστα τὰν ποσὶν κακά.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

Ἀντιστροφή γ'.

ἴτω ἴτω,  
1330 φανήτω μόρων ὁ κάλλιστ' ἐμῶν  
ἐμοὶ τερμίαν ἄγων ἀμέραν  
ὑπατος· ἴτω ἴτω,  
ὅπως μηκέτ' ἡμαρ ἄλλ' εἰσίδω.

ANTIGONE.

sword? — O miserable that I am, and steeped in miserable anguish !

ME. Yea, both his son's doom, and that other's, were laid to thy charge by her whose corpse thou seest.

CR. And what was the manner of the violent deed by which she passed away ?

ME. Her own hand struck her to the heart, when she had learned her son's sorely lamented fate.

CR. Ah me, this guilt can never be fixed on any other of mortal kind, for my acquittal ! I, even I, was thy slayer, wretched that I am — I own the truth. Lead me away, O my servants, lead me hence with all speed, whose life is but as death !

CH. Thy counsels are good, if there can be good with ills ; briefest is best, when trouble is in our path.

CR. Oh, let it come, let it appear, that fairest of fates for me, that brings my last day, — aye, best fate of all ! Oh, let it come, that I may never look upon to-morrow's light !

CH. These things are in the future ; present tasks claim our care : the ordering of the future rests where it should rest.

## ΑΝΤΙΓΟΝΗ.

ΧΟΡΟΣ.

μέλλοντα ταῦτα. τῶν προκειμένων τι χρὴ  
1335 πράσσειν. μέλει γὰρ τῶνδ' ὅτοισι χρὴ μέλειν.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

ἀλλ' ὦν ἐρῶ μὲν ταῦτα συγκατηξάμην.

ΧΟΡΟΣ.

μὴ νῦν προσεύχου μηδέν· ὡς πεπρωμένης  
οὐκ ἔστι θνητοῖς συμφορᾶς ἀπαλλαγή.

ΚΡΕΩΝ.

Ἐντιστροφὴ δ'.

ἄγοιτ' ἂν μάταιον ἄνδρ' ἐκποδών,  
1340 ὅς, ὦ παῖ, σέ τ' οὐχ ἐκὼν κατέκανον,  
σέ τ' αὐτάν, ὧμοι μέλεος, οὐδ' ἔχω  
ὅπα πρὸς πότερον ἴδω, πάντα γὰρ  
1345 λέχρια τὰν χεροῶν· τάδ' ἐπὶ κρατί μοι  
πότμος δυσκόμιστος εἰσήλατο.

ΧΟΡΟΣ.

πολλῷ τὸ φρονεῖν εὐδαιμονίας  
1350 πρῶτον ὑπάρχει· χρὴ δὲ τὰ γ' εἰς θεοὺς  
μηδὲν ἀσεπτεῖν· μεγάλοι δέ λόγοι  
μεγάλας πληγὰς τῶν ὑπεραύχων  
ἀποτίσαντες  
γῆρα τὸ φρονεῖν ἐδίδαξαν.

CR. All my desires, at least, were summed in that prayer.

CH. Pray thou no more ; for mortals have no escape from destined woe.

CR. Lead me away, I pray you ; a rash, foolish man ; who have slain thee, ah my son, unwittingly, and thee, too, my wife—unhappy that I am ! I know not which way I should bend my gaze, or where I should seek support ; for all is amiss with that which is in my hands,—and yonder, again, a crushing fate hath leapt upon my head.

*As CREON is being conducted into the house, the Coryphaeus speaks the closing verses.*

CH. Wisdom is the supreme part of happiness ; and reverence towards the gods must be inviolate. Great words of prideful men are ever punished with great blows, and, in old age, teach the chastened to be wise.



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